

Cuba says U.S. captain 'defected'

HAVANA (R) — The Communist Party newspaper Granma said Monday that a U.S. army captain had sought political asylum in Cuba over Washington's Central American policy, but U.S. authorities denied the report and said they had no record of the man. The Cuban report Monday morning said the officer, Hugo Romeu Almeida, a Cuban-born American, had arrived in Havana "a few hours ago" and that he had been serving at a U.S. base in Stuttgart, West Germany. The newspaper said Capt. Romeu Almeida was seeking asylum because the U.S. military was trying to send him to Central America. It said he objected to American policy in the region. The report also said his decision was influenced by disillusionment with the Vietnam war, which he had observed at a distance while serving in the Dominican Republic for two years.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، والرأي.

Iraqi defence minister in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — Iraqi Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah arrived in Cairo on Monday and held talks with his Egyptian counterpart Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, the Middle East News Agency said. The agency said Gen. Khairallah was in Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian government and was given a formal welcoming ceremony at the Defence Ministry headquarters. No details on the discussions during the two-day visit have been announced. Egypt has been supplying Iraq with military equipment despite the absence of diplomatic relations which were severed when Iraq joined 16 other Arab countries in severing ties with the Cairo government after its 1979 treaty with Israel. Gen. Khairallah lauded "strong and brotherly" Egyptian-Iraqi relations.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Landowners compensated

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Land and Survey (DLS) paid JD 1.5 million over the past two days in settlement of compensations due to some citizens in various parts of the Kingdom for the acquisition of their land for use by government departments and public institutions. DLS Director Badr Al Mulqi said on Monday. Mr. Mulqi said the amount required for settling all compensation for the acquisition of land is JD 10,822,705. Mr. Mulqi also said the government has allocated JD 10,400,000 for the purpose.

Renamed Al Wihdat beats Al Faisali

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Dheffat Club, formerly Al Wihdat Club, on Monday beat Al Faisali Club 2-1 in the first match since the suspension of Al Wihdat Club from playing matches following fan violence earlier this year. Monday's match was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, deputising for the prime minister, and Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez. Mr. Majali presented the cup to the winning team at the end of the match. The Al Wihdat Club was suspended by a cabinet decision earlier this year following clashes among fans at the Sports City. The ban on the club has been lifted.

Jordan to mark World Housing Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, along with world countries, will mark the World Housing Day on Oct. 20, 1986. During the day's celebrations a seminar will be held on Jordan's housing policies and strategies and an exhibition of housing activities in Jordan.

Kuwait criticises Soviet-Israeli talks

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti government minister said Monday the Soviet Union had put self-interest above its sympathy for the Arab cause in agreeing to talks with Israel next week. Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, commenting on the talks, said the major powers "have their own interests. It is not a matter of sympathy to our cause as it is something to their interest." The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported (See page 2 for related story).

Suspected assassin of Bernadotte dies

TEL AVIV (R) — A member of Israel's pre-1948 underground who has been linked by historians to the 1948 assassination of United Nations mediator Count Folke Bernadotte has died aged 64, the Israeli news agency Ithm said. Yehoshua Cohen died on Friday at a collective settlement after a heart attack, the agency said. A leading member of the Stern gang terrorist group, Cohen never publicly confirmed or denied allegations that he was involved in the ambush of the Swedish statesman in his car on a Jerusalem street on Sept. 17, 1948.

Falangist leaders seek end to revolt in 'Lebanese Forces'

- Mastermind of rebellion survives ambush
- Uneasy ceasefire holds in east Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The architect of a revolt in Lebanon's largest mostly Christian militia was wounded in a gunfire ambush in east Beirut on Monday as politicians tried to resolve the latest power struggle to control Lebanon's Christian heartland.

Police said at least nine combatants were killed and 35 wounded in the day-long street battles the mainly Christian sector of the Lebanese capital on Sunday. A nightfall ceasefire called by President Amin Gemayel's rightist Falange Party held through the day with only occasional shooting reported at militia checkpoints set up at key crossroads, police reported.

Israelis bomb area near Baalbek

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli planes attacked an area in eastern Lebanon on Monday, about 10 kilometres south-east of the historic city of Baalbek, police said.

They said the planes hit 'Am Al Ouda, area, near the village of Hosh Barada, but could not immediately confirm an Israeli report that Palestinian bases were attacked.

There were no immediate reports of casualties. The Israeli army said in Tel Aviv earlier that the aircraft had hit bases near Baalbek used by the Abu Musa dissident faction of the Palestinian mainstream movement Fatah.

Monday's Israeli announcement said one group of targeted buildings was located 10 kilometres west of Baalbek, and the other camp was seven kilometres west of the town.

It said the Israeli planes

in east Beirut's Syoufi neighbourhood.

Dr. Abu Nader, 34, and 10 bodyguards in two hatch-backed estate wagons suffered gun wounds in the ambush staged at Dora district at 1:30 a.m. (2230 GMT Sunday), according to police.

Dr. Abu Nader, the president's nephew, was recovering well from a three-hour surgery to remove three bullets from his right shoulder, waist and left leg, said a bulletin from St. Joseph Hospital in east Beirut.

He made a statement from his sick-bed Monday evening, reassuring "my comrades and friends that my injuries are minor and I shall be with them again

(Continued on page 3)

Mahdi begins Soviet visit

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Sudanese Premier Sadeq Al Mahdi met with Soviet Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov on Monday at the start of an official visit, TASS reported.

The official news agency gave no details on the talks, which began shortly after Mr. Mahdi's arrival for what was scheduled to be a five-day visit.

Relations between Sudan and the Soviet Union were chilly under the 16-year tenure of former President Jaafar Numeiri, who was deposed in a military coup last year.

Mr. Mahdi's visit to Moscow was seen as an effort to improve those ties.

It followed a visit by the Sudanese premier to Libya, another country which had chilly relations with Sudan under Mr. Numeiri. Mr. Mahdi said that trip was intended to develop bilateral relations and "does not mean entry into an Arab axis."

Pacific leaders to take Kanak problem to U.N.

SUVA, Fiji (AP) — The 13-nation South Pacific Forum wound up a four-day conference on Monday with a call from the Vanuatu prime minister for increased pressure on France to give independence to its Pacific territories.

A final communique said the leaders decided to take the issue of New Caledonian independence to the U.N. because French policy on self-determination for the nickel-rich island had regressed in the past year.

The communique also said the 13 nations had finalised protocols to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty adopted at last year's meeting at Rarotonga, capital of the Cook Islands.

Prime Minister Walter Lini, an Anglican priest and a hardliner among the Pacific leaders, said the

forum's decision to take the issue of New Caledonian independence to the United Nations was only a first step.

Mr. Lini proposed that the forum press for independence for all French territories in the Pacific.

The forum includes Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and Tonga.

Micronesia, due to get independence Sept. 30, sent observers and will become a full member next year.

The final communique said the new French government of Jacques Chirac, due to visit New Caledonia this month, appeared committed to keeping the island as a French territory.

Gold and platinum prices soar

ZURICH (R) — Strong demand for gold and platinum sent prices up sharply again on world markets on Monday due to fears that South Africa — a key world producer of both metals — might retaliate against threatened international sanctions by cutting supplies.

Gold jumped to its highest level in almost two and a half years and many analysts predicted it would soon rise above \$400 an ounce.

Gold was fixed at 394.50 an ounce in London, its highest level since March 1984 and nearly \$28 up on Friday's fix. In Zurich, it was quoted at a high of around \$398 before drifting lower to about \$392 in early afternoon.

Platinum, which a year ago cost only \$235 an ounce, traded at \$565 at midday in Zurich, a gain of over \$60 on its closing levels last Friday. It was fixed in London at \$562.

Dealers said there was strong worldwide demand for both metals, fuelled by concern about South Africa, which accounts for half the Western world's gold supplies and over 80 per cent of its platinum supplies.

If gold broke through \$400, it could rapidly advance to \$450, analysts said.

The rally in precious metals began with traders trying to secure supplies of platinum in case South Africa, under growing pressure over apartheid, should hit back by cutting sales to countries that imposed economic sanctions.

Platinum has a particularly volatile price because annual world supplies total only around .85 tonnes.

Around a third is used in the car industry and another third in manufacturing jewellery, with other major users being the electronics and chemicals industry.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan swears in as Regent prior to His Majesty King Hussein's departure to the United Arab Emirates Monday.

Also present are His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem (Petra photo)

King arrives in Abu Dhabi for talks with Sheikh Zayed

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein arrived here on Monday for talks with the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, on bilateral relations, the latest developments in the Middle East and Arab affairs.

Talks between the two leaders are expected to begin on Tuesday. Upon his arrival here, the King was accorded a warm welcome ceremony attended by a high-level UAE delegation headed by Sheikh Zayed.

The King is accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem

and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid. Reuter said the visit was expected to last three days.

The King and the delegation accompanying him were the guests of honour at a dinner hosted by Sheikh Zayed Monday night.

Efforts to end the almost six-year-old Iran-Iraq war and endeavours to find a durable and just solution to the Palestinian problem are expected to figure high in the talks between King Hussein and Sheikh Zayed.

Diplomats in Abu Dhabi were quoted by Reuter as saying that the King was expected to brief

Iran attacks Greek ship in neutral Gulf waters

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iranian warplanes on Monday attacked a Greek commercial vessel sailing off Dubai.

Marine salvage executives based in Bahrain reported that the Greek vessel Olympian Spirit was attacked by Iranian warplanes and put out a distress signal at about 1:00 p.m. requesting assistance.

They said the ship master reported the attack while the ship was off the Emirate of Dubai, at a location 25 degrees 50 minutes latitude and 55 degrees 30 minutes longitude.

The distress report did not include further details, according to the executives who spoke on condition they not be identified. They said salvage tugboats were rushing to the crippled vessel.

The Iranian attacks on ships sailing in the southern neutral sector of the Gulf waters are carried out in retaliation for Iraqi raids on Iranian-commissioned tankers near its vital Kharg Island oil terminal in the northeastern reaches of the Gulf waters.

Iranian leaders have warned that if Iraq threatened their shipping lanes, they would make the rest of the Gulf waters insecure.

Karpov and Nitze begin special talks in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Chief Kremlin arms negotiator Viktor Karpov went into special talks with a high-ranking American delegation on Monday saying the Soviet Union "would do anything" to schedule a new superpower summit.

But Mr. Karpov charged that public statements on U.S. arms control policy suggest the White House is not interested in progress towards disarmament, a prerequisite frequently cited by the Kremlin for setting the date of the next U.S.-Soviet summit.

Mr. Karpov spoke briefly outside the Foreign Ministry to a television crew acting as a pool for American TV networks. He then left for the start of special talks with a U.S. delegation headed by President Ronald Reagan's arms control adviser, Paul Nitze.

The U.S. embassy and members of the American delegation declined comment on the negotiations, taking place in a government guest house in the Lenin Hills in central Moscow.

The talks, scheduled to last two days, were seen as preparing for a Sept. 19-20 meeting between U.S.

Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze.

The meeting is intended to set an agenda for a 1986 summit between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Reuter adds from Bonn: President Reagan said Monday he was optimistic about progress in East-West arms control talks and confident that a summit meeting between himself and Mr. Gorbachev would take place this year.

Mr. Reagan said in an interview with West Germany's biggest newspaper, Bild: "We welcomed the latest Soviet proposals (on arms control) as a signal that the Soviets have begun to make serious efforts."

"I answered them positively. Progress is starting to be made in the field of arms control. The ball is now in their court," he said.

He said he was optimistic about prospects for reaching agreement with the Soviet Union on nuclear arms reductions.

"This goal is attainable," Mr. Reagan said.

Delivery of French frigate boosts Saudi defences

JEDDAH (AP) — Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz this week took delivery of the fourth French-built 2,610-tonne frigate, the HMS Abha, and raised the combat capability of the kingdom's incipient navy, Western diplomats said Monday.

The relative emptiness of the interior desert expanses and the concentration of oil-producing facilities both on shore and offshore in the Gulf has made the Saudi navy and coast guard essential defenders of Saudi Arabia.

The Royal Saudi Navy's four French frigates will be its biggest vessels, said the diplomats who would not be identified under their embassy rules.

The vessels are equipped with Exocet anti-ship missiles, and the Crotale-Shahine anti-aircraft missiles. The ships also carry Dauphine French helicopters equipped with AS-15TT missiles, the diplomats said.

The ships are designed for anti-submarine as well as surface combat. The French refer to them as the F-2000 class.

The four frigates are part of the \$3.45-billion Al Sawari deal, in

which the French supplied the Saudis with two Durand class 17,800-tonne tanker ships, 24 Dauphine-2 helicopters, and two Atlantique-11 marine patrol aircraft, according to the diplomats.

The deal also included Oto Melara-Mantra coastal defence missile systems, 200 anti-submarine missiles, and an unspecified number of Crotale and Otomat missiles, they said.

The navy, with forces numbering over 2,200, is the kingdom's smallest armed service. The Saudi para-military National Guard, for instance, numbers over 25,000. The air force numbers 14,000.

The navy sails from two main bases, in the Saudi Red Sea port city of Jeddah, and Al Qatif at Jubail on the Gulf.

These bases were built with assistance from the U.S. army corps of engineers.

The Royal Saudi Navy operates eight coast guard hovercraft, four badr-class corvettes, five fast attack missile patrol boats, four minesweepers, 53 coastal patrol boats, and three Jaguar fast attack craft, in addition to the four French frigates, diplomats said.

Bonn warns E. Germany over flood of refugees

BONN (R) — The West German government warned East Germany on Monday that its refusal to halt a flood of Third World refugees through Berlin was posing a serious threat to bilateral relations.

The minister for inter-German affairs, Heinrich Windelen, told a news conference that East Berlin's conduct was "crudely unfriendly" towards Bonn and warned it would directly affect prospects for improving cooperation between the two states.

Western allied sources also criticised East Germany's behaviour and said the United States, Britain and France, which control West Berlin, believed it was trying to use the refugee issue as a lever to change the special status of Berlin.

West Germany says it is losing control over a flood of refugees from Africa, Asia and the Middle East that has topped 50,000 this year.

More than half entered the country by flying first to East Berlin and then crossing into the western half of the city and Bonn has accused the communist state

of encouraging the influx.

"There is no longer any doubt that the refugee problem is now causing serious strain to East-West German relations," Mr. Windelen said.

"We are dealing with crudely unfriendly behaviour (by East Germany) which is causing us harm."

Mr. Windelen said East Germany's encouragement of the influx through advertisements in Third World countries promising easy access to West Berlin was in total contradiction to its pledges to seek good-neighbourly relations with West Germany.

The two states are at present negotiating on agreements covering environmental protection and technological cooperation, but Mr. Windelen warned that the refugee problem threatened hopes for progress in both areas.

The Bonn government was under pressure from the electorate to halt the influx of asylum-seekers and this would inevitably affect its attitude towards East German demands at the talks, he said.

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Iraqi jets bomb Iranian refinery and power station

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi warplanes stabbed into central Iran on Monday, bombing a refinery and a power station at the populous city of Isfahan, the Iraqi military command reported.

The Isfahan refinery and the Montazeri power station were bombed by Aug. 7, and Monday's raids were "to inflict additional destruction on these vital and economic installations and to deprive the enemy of chances of repairing them," the Iraqi command said in a war communiqué.

The installations were "reduced to rubble, flames and smoke," said the communiqué, broadcast on Baghdad Radio. All jets returned safely to base from the mid-morning air raids on Isfahan which is about 400 kilometres east of the Iraqi border.

The communiqué said the Iraqi pilots exacted "revenge of the knights."

It was referring to the reports of daily Iranian shelling of Iraqi border communities. The latest attack took place Sunday against the southern port of Basra, Iraq's second-largest city. Iraqi announcements put the casualty toll at 11 dead and 27 injured.

Iraqi border gunners last Wednesday shelled the northern border village of Sirawan. Eighty-six civilians were killed and 129 injured.

"We say to the coward rulers of Iran: This (air bombing) is the true bravery, to thrust deep in your territory ... your attacks against population areas near the border is pure cowardice," the Iraqi communiqué said.

There was no immediate comment from Iran on the Isfahan

attacks.

The raiders struck amid heightened tension between the two Gulf war foes, at war since September 1980, after both sides traded attacks or accusations of assaults on residential areas and economic centres.

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Cyprus, reported Sunday that Iranian jets heavily bombed a railway station, gasoline storage tanks and anti-aircraft emplacements at Khormao, southeast of the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk.

Kamal Kharrazi, head of Iran's war information headquarters, was quoted on Sunday by IRNA as saying Iran would fire missiles into Baghdad if Iraq continued its attacks on residential areas in Iran. Iran has repeatedly threatened to use missiles against the Iraqi capital.

Iraq has denied attacking civilian areas in Iran, insisting that its bombing was confined to economic, oil and military installations.

The Iraqi leadership has vowed to destroy Iran's economy as a means of forcing the Tehran regime to accept a negotiated end to the war.

Basra, has been regularly hit by Iranian artillery for the past 12 days and Iraq said in a communiqué Sunday night that 11 more people were killed there on Sunday.

The communiqué said the dead included three children and 27 people were wounded.

The communiqué pledged severe retaliation for the Basra shelling, saying: "Every drop of Iraqi blood will cost them (the Iranians) dearly."

Baghdad Radio said Monday's Isfahan said, at 10.45 a.m. (06:45 GMT) was "aimed at preventing the enemy from repairing the damage caused by previous attacks on the raided targets."

Later on Monday, Tehran Radio claimed Iranian anti-aircraft guns downed an Iraqi jet during the raid on an industrial area outside Isfahan in which two people were killed and 16 injured.

The raid caused minor damage and started a fire which was quickly brought under control, the radio said.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi said on Monday that Iran's conditions for ending the six-year-old conflict had not changed.

In another development, a senior Iranian official said Sunday he saw no major obstacle to closer ties between Tehran and Moscow.

The deputy foreign minister for economic and international affairs, Mohammad Javad Larjani, who returned from Moscow last week, said Iran viewed relations with the Soviet Union as "a long-term relationship, requiring a solid and extensive base."

He told a news conference that Iranian and Soviet leaders were seeking solid ties "based on respect for the sovereignty of the two countries and mutual interests."

Iranians held in S. Arabia for reasons of security

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabian authorities detained last Friday a number of Iranian pilgrims for security reasons and are holding them for investigation, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported Monday.

Saudi security sources quoted by SPA did not say how many Iranians were being held. Results of the investigation would be announced as soon as it was completed, the sources said.

Iran's national news agency IRNA said Sunday night 113 pilgrims were detained on arrival at Jeddah airport, possibly because they were carrying portraits of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and "Islamic literature."

IRNA said the Iranian Foreign Ministry had taken measures to secure their release.

It said a record 154,575 Iranians had gone on this year's pilgrimage to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

Fabid warning

On Sunday, King Fahd, apparently responding to recent Iranian threats to the kingdom, said his country would resist any attempts to undermine its security.

In a speech marking the start of the annual pilgrimage, the king said:

"We do not condone outside interference, and therefore we will not allow anybody to interfere in our internal affairs or to undermine the security of our holy sites, nation and people."

In a newspaper article last month, Iran's parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani threatened attacks on Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf states which gave Iraq money to buy arms to hit Iranian oil installations in the Gulf war.

Taba negotiators brief Peres, Shamir

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — After eight months of U.S.-mediated negotiations, Israeli and Egyptian teams have reached tentative agreement on how to settle a border dispute. Israeli officials predicted improved ties and a summit could result from the accord.

The mass circulation Yediot Ahronot reported that if the draft agreement reached Sunday was ratified by the Israeli and Egyptian governments, a summit would probably be held in early September between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Israel's negotiators briefed Mr. Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Monday on the draft agreement, which is to be presented to the coalition government's decision-making inner cabinet for approval on Wednesday. The 10-member cabinet panel has equal number of representatives from Mr. Peres' Labour Party and Mr. Shamir's Likud bloc.

Israel Radio quoted unnamed officials of Mr. Shamir's foreign ministry as urging caution until the agreement was signed by both governments.

Preparations for a Mubarak-Peres summit will begin as soon as the cabinet approves the draft accord, an Israeli official said Sunday.

David Kimche, director-general of the Israeli foreign ministry and co-chairman of the Israeli negotiating team, told reporters on his return from Egypt:

"After the cabinet approves (the accord), the preparations for the summit will immediately begin."

President Mubarak has often said that an arbitration accord would open the doors to talks with Mr. Peres.

Avraham Tamir, the head of Mr. Peres' office and the other

co-chairman of the Israeli delegation, said the Mubarak-Peres summit was not contingent on the signing of the arbitration agreement.

"His (Mr. Mubarak's) approach from the beginning was that the summit is a separate issue and I think it was a mistake to connect it to this business (on Taba)," Mr. Tamir said.

In Egypt, the government and a parliamentary committee have to endorse the draft.

Mr. Kimche said final signatures would follow the sending of the outstanding issues of international arbitrators and the demarcation of boundary lines in Taba.

An official statement in Cairo said procedures for setting both points had already been agreed.

Mr. Kimche said Israel hopes for a new era in Israeli-Egyptian relations following the signing of the accord.

Approval for Mormon centre in Jerusalem stirs protest

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Ultra-orthodox opponents of a Mormon educational centre being built in Jerusalem said on Monday a decision by cabinet ministers to allow the project to proceed was a "tragedy" for the Jews.

Jewish militants led by Interior Minister Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz have said that the Israel annex of Utah's Brigham Young University will be used for missionary activities, allegations denied by Mormon officials.

After eight months of deliberations, a ministerial committee accepted on Sunday a legal opinion by Deputy Attorney-General Yoram Bar-Sela that there was no way to halt the project, which has been given building licences.

"The decision is a disgrace and will stand among the tragedies that occurred to the Jewish people," said Moshe Dan, spokesman for Yehuda Leachim, an ultra-orthodox group opposed to the centre.

Although they approved the project, the ministers called on the lands administration to include in the Mormons' lease a commitment not to engage in activities aimed at drawing Jews to their Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Top officials of the Mormon church pledged to the Israeli cabinet committee in January that no proselytising would be allowed by students or faculty.

As the cabinet met, some 400 Soviet immigrants demonstrated outside the building to demand a tough government stand on the issue of Jewish emigration.

Labour legislator Abba Eban, head of the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee, said on Israel Radio that Israel would not gain anything by boycotting the Soviet-initiated talks.

"On the contrary, contact will provide leverage for raising the Jewish question in the Soviet Union as well as (advancing) our aim to renew diplomatic ties," said Mr. Eban.

Mr. Eban, a former foreign minister who held many meetings with Soviet representatives, said he did not think Moscow would agree to discuss Soviet Jewry.

The Israeli and Soviet delegates are expected to discuss a disagreement over \$100 million worth of Russian church property in Israel, and the possibility of establishing consular ties when they meet in Helsinki on Aug. 18-19.

Israeli police begin Shin Bet probe

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police will soon begin questioning Shin Bet agents about the 1984 killing of two Palestinians and a subsequent cover-up of responsibility for the beating deaths. Israel Radio reported Monday.

The radio and several daily newspapers reported the probe was expected to begin Monday. Police spokesman Kobi Bachar's office refused to confirm or deny the reports in keeping with a government-ordered blackout on the case.

Avraham Shalom, the head of the Shin Bet security service, and three senior aides were granted presidential pardons and immunity from prosecution for their role in the April 1984 incident.

Shalom was accused by other

Shin Bet agents of issuing the order to kill the two alleged bus hijackers and then tampering with evidence and testimony to mislead two investigations, one civilian and one military.

The probes were conducted after photographs surfaced showing the two prisoners being led away from the bus in apparent good health. The pictures contradicted an army announcement that claimed the two were fatally wounded when troops stormed the bus.

Israel's supreme court upheld the legality of the pardons last week following several petitions challenging the right of President Chaim Herzog to grant clemency before the suspects were even charged.

Shalom and three others are expected to be questioned as witnesses and not as suspects, but an additional eight or more agents will be questioned as suspects will be questioned as suspects.

The daily Maariv reported that a number of politicians will be questioned by the police. In an affidavit submitted to the court last month, Shalom indicated his actions in the bus hijacking case were authorised by his superiors. Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister at the time, had overall responsibility for the agency.

The newspaper also reported that the police are expected to conclude the investigation in the near future and will present their findings to the attorney general, Yosef Harish, who will decide whether to prosecute.

New group issues threat in Lebanon against France, Italy

BEIRUT (R) — A previously unknown group claimed responsibility in a statement published on Monday for minor explosions at two banks in east Beirut and called for the release of detainees held by France and Italy.

In a statement read out by anonymous callers to Beirut's An Nahar and As Safir newspapers, the "Anti-Imperialist Cosmopolitan Brigades" said it had blasted two banks in the east Beirut suburb of Daoura at dawn on Saturday.

Lebanese security sources told Reuters that sticks of dynamite had exploded, causing slight damage.

The group warned France it would continue its operations unless Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's government freed "Arab, Armenian and French national prisoners" as soon as possible.

The statement demanded that French authorities free Armenian Varoujan Garibedian, as well as Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, Anis Naccache, Mohammad Jenab and their colleagues.

The group urged Italy to free a woman it identified as Josephine Abdo Sarkis and said her comrades should also be released, "otherwise its interests will be a target for our attacks."

On March 21, a group calling itself the "Committee for the Defence of Arab and Middle Eastern Political Prisoners in Europe" also demanded the release of Abdallah, Garibedian and Naccache.

Abdallah is reported to be leader of the "Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions," an organisation which claimed the killings in Paris of U.S. Military Attache Charles Ray and Israeli diplomat Yaacov Barsimantov in 1982.

It also claimed the Rome assassination two years ago of Leamon Hunt, U.S. director of the multinational force in Lebanon.

Garibedian led an assault on Orly airport in July 1983, in which seven people died and 55 were wounded.

Naccache headed a five-man commando group which tried to kill former Iranian Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar in 1980.

Israel to give priority to emigration in talks with Soviets

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's cabinet has decided to give top priority to demands for easing restrictions on the emigration of Soviet Jews when Israeli and Soviet diplomats meet next week in Finland for consular talks.

But the cabinet on Sunday refused demands by right-wing hardliners and Soviet immigrants to make any improvement of ties with the Soviet Union conditional on the Kremlin's relaxation of its emigration policies.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir stressed the importance of next week's talks in Helsinki, the first formal meeting between the two countries since the Soviet Union broke ties with Israel in 1967, Israel army radio reported.

Mr. Shamir rejected demands to link the two issues from members of his right-wing Likud bloc, including Moshe Arens, the former Israeli ambassador to the United States, and Tourism Minister Avraham Shari.

Mr. Shamir will take over as Israeli prime minister in October under a power-sharing agreement with Labour party leader Shimon

Peres.

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PLO leaders keen to promote good ties with Jordan

BAHRAIN (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee has announced it is keen on promoting good relations with Jordan, despite discord on means of seeking a Middle East Peace settlement.

The PLO Executive Committee, which commenced closed-door meetings in Baghdad on Saturday, said it "affirms its keenness to preserve the special relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples ... and the necessity of buttressing and developing these ties."

The statement, issued at the PLO headquarters in Tunis on behalf of the Executive Committee, was distributed in Bahrain by the Gulf News Agency late Sunday.

It quoted the committee as expressing "regret" at the recent Jordanian decisions to expel

Khalid Al Wazir, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's top military aid, from Jordan and close offices of Fatah in Amman.

The Jordanian move, the statement complained, "cast dark shadows on the Jordanian-Palestinian relations at a time we are all working for genuine Arab solidarity to confront imperialist and Zionist conspiracies."

The committee, the PLO's highest policy-making body, has been trying to devise a programme of political action for reuniting PLO factions and smoothing over differences between the organisation's leadership and Arab governments, Palestinian sources said.

The committee expressed a desire to restore relations with Syria "on the basis of mutual respect, and non-interference in Palestinian affairs."

Palestinian officials in Baghdad said the committee was taking stock of various efforts to reconcile PLO factions and discuss the advisability of convening a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC).

Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh, the Amman-based chairman of the PNC, was attending the Baghdad meetings.

Both the Soviet Union and Algeria have been actively seeking reconciliation of bickering Palestinian factions.

Moscow last week arranged a meeting of representatives of Fatah and two other Palestinian organisations who have been demanding that Mr. Arafat renounce the Amman accord of Feb. 11 with Jordan.

Earlier on Sunday, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine issued a statement in

Damascus saying it strongly opposed any reconciliation with Mr. Arafat until the Amman accord was abrogated.

The PLO statement also criticised U.S. Vice President George Bush's recent tour of the Middle East and Jordan's proposed aid programme for Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories, and it denounced the meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Morocco's King Hassan II last month, reiterating its call for an international conference to resolve the Palestinian issue.

The statement however, made no specific mention of efforts to heal the divisions in the PLO.

The PLO "rejects and condemns" King Hassan's meeting with Mr. Peres in Morocco, the statement said, and the committee called for an Arab summit to discuss the issue.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111-14

PROGRAMME ONE
17:00 Koran
17:30 Cartoons
17:30 Children programmes
18:30 A special programme on Arab children

18:45 Micro at Work
19:00 Religious programme
19:30 Tomorrow's programme
19:45 News programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local series
21:00 Local programme
21:30 Opening of the Arab Basketball championship for men to be followed by a match between Jordan and Saudi Arabia
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Match continued

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Kiosque a Musique
18:30 La vallee des peupliers
19:00 Morning Show
19:15 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Was all the training in vain
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Music Box
21:00 Magazine Zero One
21:30 Alfred Hitchcock
22:00 News in English
22:30 The Master

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9760 KHz. SW
774111-14

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Cont.
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session Cont.
11:00 Pop Session Cont.
11:30 Pop Session Cont.
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session Cont.
13:00 Pop Session Cont.
13:30 Pop Session Cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Men from the Ministry
14:30 News Summary
14:40 Concert Hour
15:00 News Summary
15:30 Science Report
16:00 Pop Session
16:30 Pop Session
17:00 Pop Session
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show Cont.
21:25 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Cont.
22:30 News Summary
23:00 Evening Show Cont.
23:30 News Summary
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
630, 720, 1212 KHz

07:00 David Munn 07:30 The Philip Jones Brass Ensemble 07:45 Reflections
07:50 Financial News 08:00 World News
08:05 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30
New Ideas 08:40 Book Choice 08:45
The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk
09:30 Counterpoint 10:00 World News
10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30
This Particular Place 10:45 Network
U.K. 11:00 World News 11:05
Reflections 11:15 Every Day A Holiday
11:30 Aspects of Life 12:00 World News
12:05 British Press Review 12:15 The
World Today 12:30 Financial News
Look Ahead 12:45 Piper 13:00
News Summary: Windows on the
Universe 13:30 The Mystery of the Blue
Train 14:00 World News 14:05 News
about Britain 14:15 Sportsweek 14:30
Origins 15:00 Radio Newsweek 15:15 A
World Thinker 15:35 Personal Story
15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World
News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary
16:30 Network U.K. 16:45 Sportsweek
17:00 Outlook 17:45 The Philip Jones
Brass Ensemble 18:00 Radio Newsweek
18:15 A Jolly Good Show 18:30 The
Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket
19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary
19:15 Countdown 19:45 The World Today
20:00 World News 20:05 A Letter from
Scotland 20:15 Meridian 20:45 Sports
Round-up 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30
Development '86 21:40 The Fantasy
World 22:00 News Summary 23:00
World News 23:05 24 Hours: News
Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9665, 11740,
11925 and 15210 KHz

07:00 News. Informal Presentation of
Popular Music with Feature Reports,
Interviews, Answers to Listeners'
Questions, Science Reports, Sports
Reports, and a variety of other
News at 30 minutes past the hour. 18:00
News 18:10 Newsweek 18:30 Music USA
19:00 News 19:10 Focus 19:30 Special
English News & Features 20:00 News
20:10 Newsweek 20:30 Magazine Show
21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special
English News & Features 22:00 News
22:10 Newsweek 22:30 Music USA 23:00
News & Editorial 23:15 Music USA 23:30
24:00 News 24:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

The University of Sydney's photographic exhibition of the Anglo-Ma archaeological survey at the University of Jordan's Archaeology Museum.

An exhibition entitled "The Statute of Liberty" at the French Cultural Centre (until August 21).

An art exhibition by Marwan Sharabati at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.

NEWS VIDEO

The ABC News at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 636147-8
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641593
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 634049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Ara Centre 641515
Jordanian Youth City 6471806
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 644251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 643555

p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664340.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

Philadelphians Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 12.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi. Tel. 625414.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. Tel. 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771551.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.

AMMAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport on Tel. 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS:

10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Jordan (RJ)
10:55 Damascus (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:05 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
11:20 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
12:25 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
13:30 Moscow (SU)
13:35 Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:05 Baghdad (IA)
14:30 Kuwait (RJ)
14:35 Riyadh (SV)
15:10 New York, Vienna (RJ)
15:30 Athens

King arrives in Abu Dhabi for talks

(Continued from page 1)

was seeking Arab and foreign aid to finance the plan.

Upon his departure from Amman, on Monday, the King was seen off by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayez, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Cabinet members, senior civil and military officials and the charge d'affaires

at the UAE embassy in Amman. Regent before the King's departure.

Jordan marks King's accession to throne

(Continued from page 1)

Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani, Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, and UAE Vice-President and Prime Minister Rashed Ibn Sa'id Al Maktoum, Qatari Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifah Al Thani and Bahraini Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifah Ibn

Salman Al Khalifah. U.S. President Ronald Reagan was among the foreign leaders who congratulated the King on the occasion.

Cables of congratulations to the King also came from King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman, Saudi Second Deputy Prime Minister and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz and French President Francois Mitterrand.

Falangist leaders seek end to militia revolt

(Continued from page 1)

soon on the political and other areas."

Dr. Abu Nader's supporters seized control of east Beirut and the three main Christian radio and television stations in Sunday's street battles against militiamen of Samir Geagea. 37, the anti-Syrian commander of the "Lebanese Forces."

Dr. Geagea, who openly cooperated with the Israeli army during its 1982 invasion of Lebanon, waited Monday at his beleaguered seafort war council headquarters next to Beirut port for the outcome of Falangist mediation.

Informants said Mr. Saadeh's personal bodyguards escorted Dr. Geagea back to the sprawling war council compound after a late-night meeting Sunday with the Falangist chairman, Dr. Abu Nader also attended the meeting.

Dr. Geagea fled the war council during the height of the fighting to his northern base at the ancient city of Byblos, 30 kilometres north of Beirut. He was given safe conduct to travel back overland for the mediation conferences.

Dr. Abu Nader's rebels led by local "Lebanese Forces" commander for east Beirut Maroun Mashalanni, 26, seemed in firm control of the Christian sector on Monday, although the ambush indicates Dr. Geagea still has pockets of supporters.

Unconfirmed reports said Dr. Geagea was trying to bring out tanks and armoured personnel carriers from Byblos to Beirut despite earth mound and barbed-wire barricades set up on the north-south highway by Dr. Abu Nader's militia.

Sunday's battles mark the fourth upheaval within the "Lebanese Forces" since the militia was founded in 1980 by Bashir Geagea, younger brother of the present president, Bashir was assassinated in September 1982.

The rebels are demanding that Dr. Abu Nader, who is accepted by Lebanon's Muslim militias and the Syrians, be named commander

of the 8,000-strong "Lebanese Forces" to replace Dr. Geagea. The Syrians, Lebanon's main power brokers, suspended their peace-making efforts to resolve Lebanon's 11-year-old civil war last January, when Dr. Geagea overthrew Elie Hobeika, the pro-Syrian commander of the "Lebanese Forces."

Dr. Geagea deposed Dr. Abu Nader on March 12, 1985 and declared the "Lebanese Forces" an independent body from the Falange Party.

Mr. Hobeika ousted Dr. Geagea two months later and set out on negotiations through Syria with Lebanon's leftist leaders that culminated in a peace pact signed in Damascus last December 28.

However, Dr. Geagea staged a comeback January 15 and ousted Mr. Hobeika in a military showdown that left 350 people killed, most of them Hobeika supporters. Mr. Hobeika fled east Beirut and had since been functioning in east Lebanon's Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley.

Sources said the eastern sector of Beirut was normal on Monday, with traffic clogging streets and most shops and businesses open. But residents said rebel gunmen and snipers still lurked in some suburbs, including Carantina district near Beirut port and close to the Lebanese Forces' main headquarters.

"It's a stand-off at the moment while the leaders try and find a face-saving formula to get

everyone off the hook," said one east Beirut resident.

A senior militia official told Reuters that Sunday's fighting began when militia police tried to round up several people suspected of planting bombs in the eastern sector.

He said dissident militia groups, disgruntled over recent changes in the structure of the "Lebanese Forces," had tried to exploit the situation.

"It became a battle between the Lebanese Forces and certain militia factions," he said, adding that Mr. Gemayel was involved in mediation efforts.

Dr. Geagea launched a sweeping reorganisation shortly after he seized control of the militia in savage street battles in January.

More than 100 people have died in bomb attacks in Christian-dominated areas this year. The "Lebanese Forces" has blamed Damascus for the explosions. Syria has rejected the charge.

Mr. Gemayel also has been at odds with the Syrians for rejecting the Damascus accord, contending it made too many concessions to the Muslims to end the four-decade-old Christian domination of power in Lebanon.

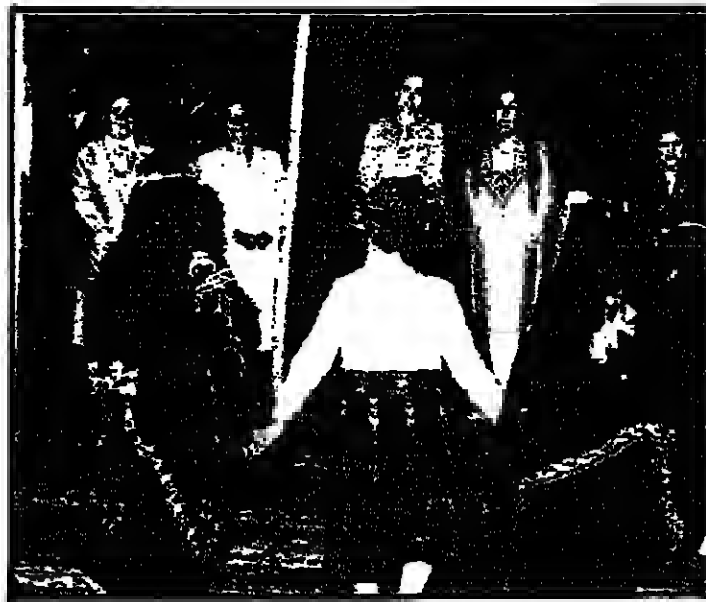
However, Mr. Gemayel has lately been trying to mend fences with the Syrians, urging them in public statements to revive their peace-making efforts.

Cabinet okays rise in free phone calls

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has endorsed a recommendation to increase the number of free local telephone calls from 1,000 to 2,000 calls a year, according to a report published in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i on Monday. The number of local telephone calls which telephone subscribers could make free of charge was 1,000 calls a year before the new amendment.

Ministry tries to contact Hassan family

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has requested the family of Mr. Faisal Ayed Hassan, a Jordanian citizen who is currently in Baghdad, to call at the ministry's consular department as soon as possible.



Her Majesty Queen Noor receives at Al Nadwa Palace Arab children taking part in the sixth Arab children conference in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Queen receives Arab children

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor received Monday at Al Nadwa Palace the Arab children participating in the sixth annual Arab Children's Congress, in which eighty children from Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, North Yemen and Palestine participated. The congress was held between August 5th and 11th.

Initiated by Queen Noor, following the Arab Summit Conference that was held in Amman in 1980, this congress has evolved into a unique Arab event.

Arab children join together to share their ideas, to discuss their problems, to learn from each other, and to establish a lasting trust, confidence and friendship.

Throughout its six year history, the Arab Children's Congress has

witnessed increasing talent, an exceptionally high calibre of participants and a rewarding and enthusiastic involvement from all the Arab Nations represented. This congress is sponsored by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, which supervises a committee representing several governmental agencies and voluntary organisations, which work throughout the year to organise and prepare this special programme.

During their week in Jordan, the Arab children have visited the archaeological ruins of Petra and Jerash, various agricultural projects in the Jordan Valley and the headquarters of the Jordanian Armed Forces. They have also visited Jordanian families. All of these activities were planned to introduce and alert these children to the political, socio-economic and cultural challenges facing Jordan today.

Arab children visit club for youngsters

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in the sixth Arab children's conference, currently being held in Jordan, Monday visited the Friends of Children Club where they were briefed on the club's development and its objectives and activities. The visiting delegations of Arab children also viewed a photographic display depicting Jordan's history and archaeological sites and they watched a play relating the story of the Jordanian people. Members of the club presented the visitors with token gifts. Fifty-six Arab children representing 14 Arab states are taking part in the conference, organised by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

Trade unions call for end to Gulf war

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions has appealed to all peace loving nations and countries to work towards ending the Iran-Iraq war by pressing the Iranian rulers to stop their aggression against Iraq and to respond to Iraqi peace calls. In a statement the federation issued in Amman on Sunday, it also called on Arab leaders to resolve their differences and to heal Arab rifts in order to achieve Arab solidarity and the unity of ranks in the face of aggressors.

Cabinet may reverse decision to buy Queen Alia Hospital if funding alternative found

By Salameh Ne'matt and Sama Attiyeh

AMMAN — A preliminary decision by the government to buy the financially-troubled Queen Alia Hospital could be reversed if an alternative is found to help the JD 15 million project stand on its own feet, according to members of the cabinet.

A cabinet statement issued Saturday said the government had decided "in principle" to buy the hospital complex and that a committee comprising the ministers of finance, industry, trade and supply, and public works was established to evaluate its assets and issue recommendations.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh expressed regret for the hospital's financial "failure" and said it was "a blow to private sector medicine."

"The collapse of the hospital is really bad... We just can't bear the idea," Dr. Hamzeh said. "That's why the government wants to save the hospital." He was speaking to the Jordan Times on Sunday after inaugurating a seminar on health education and ways to combat diarrhoea diseases.

Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher said the government decision was not final. The ministerial committee will be meeting with the Jordan Medical Corporation board of directors, which runs the hospital, to make the final decision, Dr. Muasher told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Referring to a memorandum presented to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai by the hospital's medical board, Dr. Muasher said: "All ideas and options will be studied and considered."

The memorandum, written after consultations with leading Jordanian economists, calls on the government to review its decision to buy the hospital and suggests alternatives "to save the project." Dr. Muasher said that it was the corporation, which sought to sell the hospital to the government and not the other way around.

According to one member of the corporation's board, "the corporation felt that it had no options but to sell the hospital to the government, although the hospital has just begun to operate with profit." He said that banks were "pressing the corporation to sell the hospital to repay the extended loans." However, the board member, who asked not to be identified, said the government "could easily salvage the hospital

without the need to buy it."

He explained that the government could extend soft loans to the hospital for a grace period of two years until the hospital can generate profit and stand on its own feet. "It is well known that no hospital is profitable for the first two or three years," he added. The hospital started operations six months ago.

The corporation's board member said the government could also ask the lending banks to give the hospital the grace period necessary for it to repay its debts. When asked why the corporation did not give the hospital more time to prove its economic feasibility, the board member said: "The banks wanted their frozen money immediately... what can we do?"

Dr. Muasher said however, that there was an actual need for a new government hospital. He said that if bought, the hospital would be used by the Armed Forces Royal Medical Services.

"As far as the principle of buying is concerned," Dr. Muasher said, "it has been endorsed. But whether there are any questions about it, is something that will be considered."

A high-ranking official in the Armed Forces told the Jordan Times recently that the army which among others has the King Hussein Medical Centre was in no need of another hospital. He was speaking on background.

Prior to the initiation of the project in 1982, a feasibility study for the project by Herman Smith, an international contracting firm, estimated the hospital's cost at JD 6 million. At the completion of the medical complex in 1985, the cost ran at nearly JD 15 million.

Speaking to the Jordan Times, Dr. Hamzeh expressed astonishment at the project's high cost: "Who would believe that a hospital with 200 beds could cost JD 16 million... It's the fault of the private sector," he said.

The hospital's board member, explaining how the cost came to be this high, said that the hospital had to pay JD 1 million in taxes to the government, JD 2.5 million as interest on loans and JD 500,000 for a CT Scan machine. He said the government taxes and bank interest rates were too high. He pointed out that the CT Scan machine's original cost was JD 350,000 and that the remainder consisted of JD 25,000 for an import license and interest to the Islamic Bank.

He said the original cost of the basic equipment in the hospital was JD 1,260,000 but that the

hospital now owes the Islamic Bank JD 1,800,000. He said the difference of JD 540,000 was interest to the Islamic Bank.

Construction of the hospital, which claims the highest medical standard in the Middle East, started in March '82 and ended in Aug. 1984. Today, the hospital has to pay an average of JD 5,000 a day in interest on a JD 13.5 million loan.

Dr. Fawzi Al Ali, another corporation board member, said that all was needed "is a little cooperation from the Ministry of Health" which, he said, could provide a 50-bed occupancy. "If that could be provided," Dr. Ali told the Jordan Times recently, "I guarantee that the whole idea of selling will stop."

Doctors working at the hospital were strongly in favour of keeping the hospital in private sector hands. "If the present administration thinks it cannot run the hospital, the government should bring another board of directors to do the job," Abdul Aziz Bilbeisi, a urologist, who's on the medical board on the hospital said. He argued that the break-even point for the hospital which is JD 45,000 a month had been reached in June. He said that last month, the hospital generated an income of JD 61,500, and that the profit rate was accelerating.

Dr. Bilbeisi accused the hospital's administration of failing to attract private-sector doctors. He said that persistent rumours that the hospital would be sold after its completion contributed to its failure and discouraged doctors from joining.

"All doctors support this view, including some members of the medical board," Dr. Bilbeisi told the Jordan Times. "Why should the government carry the burden of buying the hospital when it can stand on its own, with little support and generate income for the country?" Dr. Bilbeisi said. He added that the government would be incurring JD 2 million a year in running costs, "when the hospital can bring hard currency for the country if it remained in private hands." He said that nearly 30 per cent of patients treated by the hospital were non-Jordanians — mainly Arabs from the Gulf region.

He called on the government to support the hospital by referring government employees for treatment at the hospital under an agreement with the Ministry of Health.

About 300 hospital staff would lose their jobs in the case of a government acquisition.

Bisharat family home retains character and charm of a bygone era in Jordan's history

Text and photos by Josephine Zanantiri Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The key certainly belonged to another time; a long, black object possibly ten inches in all with an elegant oval top and heavy, divided square bottom. Clunking and grating loudly in the solid iron door, it opened the past and the world of Mamdouh Bisharat's farm house at Um El Kunudon. More of a feudal homestead or a manor than a farm house, the magnificent two-storey dwelling is impressively sited high on a hillside overlooking fertile wheat fields.

The Bisharat family, explains Mamdouh, were originally from Salt but moved south in the middle of the last century. Seated on a large couch, covered with brightly patterned cushions, he gestures towards the family photographs neatly arranged in squares and rectangles upon wall. "That is my grandmother," he points to the largest photograph of a proud and strong woman who raised six sons

through the turbulent years of Turkish domination of Jordan.

"For those travelling from the Eastern desert, this house and the Abu Jaber's were the first glimpse of life beyond the badia," he says.

Although partly obscured by the old orchard and the tall cypresses lining the road, the vista is a dramatic one at each turn of the dusty road climbing towards the manor. The rugged stone house with its high surrounding wall stands integrated and rising out of the airy peak, the rough stone structure an organic yet monumental extension of the natural landscape.

The external facades are devoid of ornamentation, even the relatively few windows and front door are dismissed in the powerful rise of stone. "Because of the dangers of the times, large farm houses were fortified in the Nineteenth Century," comments Mamdouh. "During periods of strife the families working on our farm — who lived outside, sometimes in the surrounding caves — would flood inside the

protective walls for safety," he continues.

The enclosed manor is divided between various members of the Bisharat family today, says Mamdouh gesturing around the complex. The original entry, the madafeh or reception room, is owned by a cousin, the stable and house annex by other relatives.

Although the original buildings were constructed of stone, cement dividing walls, introduced during family sub-division this century, detract from both the beauty of the manor and an instant understanding of the generous flow of house into courtyard, outbuildings and stables.

The madafeh, guarded now by a huge iron double gate, consists of a large open annex and an adjacent reception chamber. Both are roofed with magnificent cross vaults, typical of Jerusalem's older dwellings. "The Bisharat men of the last century ran the property from the madafeh," explains Mamdouh. "Coffee was always brewed on a central fire, strangers used the place as a hotel." The

times were generous with the Bisharats constantly slaughtering from their extensive herds for passing guests. "No one was ever turned away," he adds.

Courtyards

The courtyard, a large tract of land between house, stables and madafeh remains very Nineteenth Century in character — an area for dogs, horses, carriages, carts and farm equipment. Oddly quiet in the 1980's save for a curious dog and a few strutting geese, the eye is immediately drawn to the entrance of Mr. Bisharat's house. A high wall with an imposing, narrow arched gateway — locked by a sturdy cast iron gate made of thick bands of metal — leads into a monastic passage and the original front entry of the manor house.

A small inner courtyard separates two annexes either side of the front entry. Both nestle closely against the higher manor and near by the smaller of the two, the kitchen, is a cistern. "In the winter," says Mr. Bisharat, "it was filled with snow and the highly

effective natural insulation kept the water cool through even the warmest of summers."

"The kitchen," says young architect Ammar Khammash involved in the restoration of the house, "is undoubtedly the site of the original kitchen." A large room with a sizeable chimney accommodating a delicate ancient stove. Offsetting the dark, smoky atmosphere is a wonderfully uneven foot square skylight, throwing a powerful beam of light across the old, geometrically patterned tiled floor.

Family insignia

Carved into the strong stone lintel of the front door is the Bisharat family insignia — a cross. Stepping back in the inner courtyard Mr. Bisharat points to another cross, this time Byzantine, etched into the higher stone wall. During the restoration process he has repeated the insignia throughout the house.

From the front door, a short hall leads to the grandest of the manor's many chambers, a long room running the width of the house and roofed by an enormous barrel vault. Used originally as a wheat silo, the room is comfortably dark, lit only by narrow arrow slit windows yet it is wonderfully cool. The view across the chamber from the Nineteenth Century front door to its presently used counterpart directly opposite, is a little like looking across a long finished era out into the surreal world of the Twentieth Century dominated by peaceful cypress trees.

A parallel chamber, also used for wheat storage, is divided into two spaces — both roofed by cross vaults. "The craftsmen came from Jerusalem to build these rooms," says Mr. Bisharat gesturing towards the curved quartered arches making up each ceiling. "No wood or steel structural elements were used in the house," he adds, everything is stone and vaults and arches used in the building are its structural components.

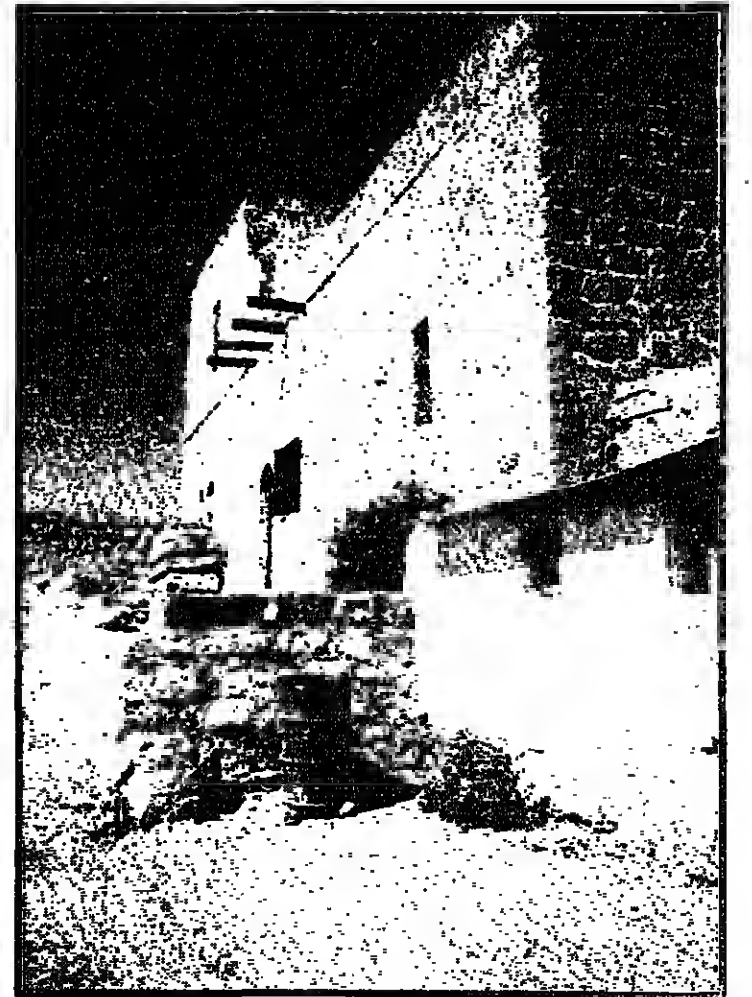
The two rooms, detached from the hub of the house, are serene

and peaceful. Mr. Bisharat plans to use them as a chapel when work on the house is completed. He has already installed two large ornate, oriental brass chandeliers in each room.

Living quarters

The ground floor living quarters located on the other side of the greater wheat silo are slightly elevated. The two rooms, says Ammar Khammash, provide an excellent example of cross vaulting. The smaller of the rooms, probably the oldest section of the house, is now used as a dining room. The smooth curves of the ceilings are reflected in the arched wall recesses, originally used for day time storage of bedding, mattresses and blankets. These recesses, "indicate the detailed planning and economical use of space prevailing in Nineteenth Century local architecture," comments Ammar. Windows are pushed back to the edge of the three foot thick stone walls, creating light airy sitting nooks and protecting the house from the climatic excesses of Jordan's summers and winters. Mr. Bisharat throws open one window; "Look," he says as a wonderfully cool fresh draft of air rushes into the room, "each room is superbly ventilated, summer heat doesn't affect the house at all."

The adjoining room, now used as a sitting area, is also cross vaulted, but slightly more spacious than the dining room. The family portraits, including Mr. Bisharat's grandmother, cover one wall recess. The furnishings are old treasured pieces and almost monastic in their sparseness, yet cluttered, distribution; a donkey's harness beside an ancient carved lion's head, photographs and books abound, a tray of red plums fresh washed and brought from the garden is placed on the table by a woman whose family has for generations worked for the Bisharats, tea is served in delicate glasses and Mr. Bisharat stands, as so many of the Bisharat men before him, in front of the arched double window looking pensively



The front of the house over the fertile family lands.

The bedrooms

Access to the sleeping quarters on the second floor is via a narrow winding staircase. The flag stones of each step are well-worn and smooth by more than a century of early morning boots hurrying to the stables and farm.

The bedrooms of the second floor adjoin a large balcony. The view in Mr. Bisharat's words is like "looking over the world" — intensely quiet save the rustic sounds of birds chirping and the far off yelp of a chained dog. Only the distant hum of a truck labouring uphill and the fragile dots of greenhouses indicate to the

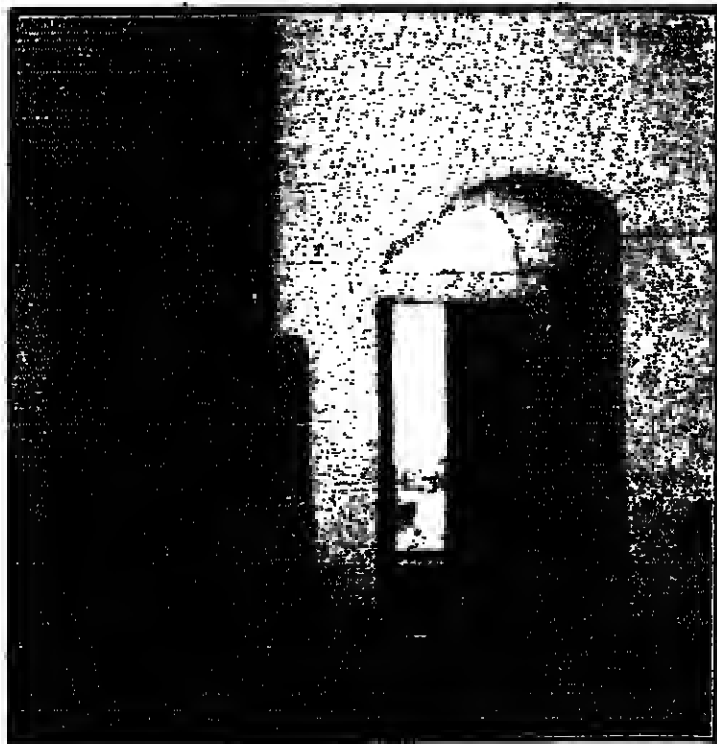
senses that the balcony scene belongs to the Twentieth Century.

The bedrooms are simple yet executed for maximum light and ventilation; each with its own small windows offering a different aspect of the farm. The furnishings are antique — washstands, cupboards, tables, comfortable old beds, even the details such as small tin boxes, shaving equipment, and so on appear as it would have a hundred years ago.

Houses are said to reflect their owners. Mr. Bisharat's home certainly reflects his character and sense of family history. Moreover, it is a superb monument to Jordan's history and a family who played an active part in it.



The Bisharat house, surrounded by orchards by fruit and cypress trees stands amid the fields near Um El Kunudon



Stairs leading to the bedrooms with Nineteenth century door in the background

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Two-way benefit

NOT long ago, Japan announced that it intended to use windfall profits from low oil prices into wide-scale exploration programmes to lessen its dependence on oil imports — mainly from the Middle East. At the same time, and even before, the United States, West Germany, Britain, France and other industrial nations were hailing the advent of declining energy costs in pompous projections of lower inflation, reduced deficits, higher savings and booming growth.

It does not seem strange that such rejoicing has taken place at a time when many Third World countries have been struggling against recession resulting from a decline in exports, mounting debts and unprecedented low prices for their commodities. But if Western treasuries are now amassing Third World wealth in the form of cheap oil, industrialised countries should note that many developing countries have virtually no, or limited, natural riches, and many of them are saddled with debts beyond their capacity for repayment.

When OPEC adjusted oil prices in the early seventies it aimed for more equitable distribution of the oil revenues. Many Third World states benefitted from OPEC aid and other financial flows, and many succeeded in implementing projects essential to their economic well-being.

Now, however, without the continued support that quite a few nations anticipate from the "wealthy West," industrial nations may have on their hands more serious problems to tackle — the most important of which is the inability of many countries to repay their mounting debts.

At this moment in time, the wealth is shifting to the West and the industrialised countries have responsibilities that stretch beyond their national boundaries.

They should remember to keep the economic wheel rolling in favour of a more balanced relationship with the Third World, if only because it is in the latter that most riches lie and human beings live, and because there is no such thing as permanent economic arrangement in the world we live.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordanians' pride

TODAY the Jordanian family celebrates one of its dearest occasions, that of King Hussein's accession to the throne. This is a feast which reminds Jordanians of the great burden the King has been shouldering in implementing the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. The occasion is also a reminder of what the King is trying to achieve in his endeavours for greater prosperity for his people. The Jordanians are proud of their country and their leadership and the stability and security that they enjoy and the progress achieved under the monarch. Since the King's accession to the throne in 1952 the Kingdom has made significant strides on the domestic and external levels, realised many achievements and aspirations and developed its armed forces and its security force for protecting the nation from all enemies. Indeed under King Hussein, Jordan has acquired a distinguished status among Arab countries, has been committed to national causes and has been striving to achieve solidarity and common action among Arab states. It is a great march behind a great leader who devoted his life and efforts for his nation.

Al Dustour: Jordan's happy occasion

THIS is the 34th anniversary of King Hussein's accession to the throne and it is an occasion in which the Jordanian people take pride and one that makes them look forward towards further achievements and prosperity. The Jordanian family which celebrates this happy occasion realises that the progress achieved in the country was closely linked to its leadership and the wise policies of King Hussein. Over the past 34 years, and thanks to King Hussein's courage and wisdom, this country has been able to overcome major obstacles and to conquer all difficulties that impeded its development. Perhaps the most important achievement was the building of the Jordanian armed forces, the shield of the nation and the protector of the country's independence. King Hussein's keenness on strengthening the armed forces and his relentless efforts for equipping them with up-to-date armaments was instrumental in these forces' strength. Apart from the domestic affairs, the King has been caring for Jordan's relations with Arab countries and with the international community. In the pan-Arab field the King has been striving to achieve solidarity and joint action in implementation of the Great Arab Revolt principles. It is an occasion for the Jordanian people to renew their allegiance to the Hashemite throne and pledge to march behind the leader towards further progress.

Sawt Al Shaab: King and country

SINCE 1952 King Hussein has been true in his commitment to his nation and striving to implement the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, whose standards Jordan has been raising with pride and determination. Since, according to the throne, King Hussein has been keen on seeking every possible means for strengthening his country, serving his people and bringing about stability and progress to the Jordanian people. Under the monarch's rule, Jordan has been successful in carrying out many improvements in social and economic fields and has realised many achievements that stand out as examples to other nations. On the domestic level, Jordan's industry, agriculture and education have been developed significantly and the armed forces strengthened to defend the nation. On the regional front, King Hussein has been a pioneer in rallying Arab countries together and striving to achieve solidarity among Arab countries; and on the international front the King has been able to acquire a significant status for Jordan and make many friends for this country. Under King Hussein, Jordan has been able to avoid numerous obstacles and was able to overcome many difficulties, thus paving the way for a stable society, enjoying security and progress.

Jewish lobbying groups play key role in Washington

The following article by Mandell I. Ganchrow, is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post. The writer, a surgeon in Monsey, N.Y., is a member of the executive board of AIPAC and heads the Hudson Valley Political Action Committee, one of the largest pro-Israel PACs in the U.S.

CONGRESSMAN John Miller (R-Wash.), a freshman, was addressing a pro-Israel Political Action Committee (PAC) in Washington: "When I was first elected, each week another Jewish group came to visit me. I thought that was because I was Jewish and these groups were coming specifically to see me. Soon, however, I learned that each of my colleagues were being visited by each and every one of those groups."

The farmer, said Miller, comes one day a year in huge numbers: they make their point and leave. Pro- and anti-abortion groups come one weekend a year and are not seen again. Jewish groups of all types of persuasion, on the

other hand, are in Washington week-in and week-out.

"There was a time when only 'leaders' of the Jewish community came to the American capital. The masses came only when a specific issue required numbers for a mass rally."

Today you cannot consider yourself a true "Jewish organisation" if you do not sponsor regular pilgrimages to Washington. UJA, federations, PACs, AIPAC, synagogue groups, benevolent groups, and even the American Friends of Shaarei Zedek Hospital have full-day programmes for their followers. The recent American-Israeli Political Action Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference suffered in attendance because it followed by only a few weeks the Young Leadership UJA Washington Conclave, many of its members having attended the former event.

These events usually have a similar theme, depending on the number of participants, the prestige of the sponsoring

organisation and the *protektia* of the one or two top officers of the organisation.

A typical day would include an AIPAC and Soviet Jewry briefing, a visit to the Israel embassy, followed by a luncheon at which senators, representatives and administration officials, up to and including the president, attend and deliver a few remarks. The group may then break up into smaller groups for individual appointments with members of Congress.

The day might conclude with a visit to the White House, usually the old executive office building for briefings for members of the administration, or a visit to the Pentagon sponsored by Jinsa, the Jewish Institute of National Security, or even a formal dinner. Few are the participants who do not finish the day on a high, believing that they have contributed to Jewish survival and Israeli security.

Indeed, what they have done is to help develop relationships. Protecting our interests is not a

one-time event. True, it is really only the PACs and AIPAC that have true relevance in the political life of members of Congress in states without a significant Jewish population: PACs because of their ability to give much-needed campaign funds, and AIPAC because of its national network that acts as an "umbrella-type" group.

Why do Senators and Congressmen spend time with the other groups? Often they obtain lists of the attendees so that they can add them to their growing list of potential contributors. Fund-raising for Congress has become a national task, and it is important for members of Congress to develop a national reputation. A senator might have three to six luncheons per day, and as many afternoon cocktail parties to go to.

Each of these may represent a totally different interest group. With so many issues before the Congress, meeting these groups helps the individual congressman to be an educator on major and

even minor nuances of the issues. They are particularly pleased if a few members of one of these groups come from their home state or district.

As for the sponsoring group, the more prestigious the array of speakers appearing before it, the happier it is. It can proclaim with pride to its members and supporters and in subsequent press releases how important the group really is. The theme is, "You come on a trip to Washington with a very influential and important group to meet the leaders of our nation. It's urgent for you to continue to support financially our group so we can continue this process."

These trips have become so common that often individuals say: "I came last year. If President Reagan won't have a private conference with me in the Rose Garden, I think I'll stay home."

The magic of America is that an individual can affect policy by involvement.

This sounds like textbook propaganda. However, each Washington mission should be

viewed as an educational process. For example, our PAC visited Washington two days after the Marine barracks blast in Lebanon. Eighty percent of the senators and representatives we met did not know that Israel had offered medical assistance 45 minutes away to the injured marines. We came into contact with about 60 members of Congress that day. How angry they were when we educated them in this regard!

One week before the introduction of the Saudi arms package, after an AIPAC briefing, our group was able to obtain commitments of opposition from congressmen who hadn't heard about the sale and who felt that it was incredible that such a thing could be proposed so soon after the withdrawal of the Jordanian arms package.

The Washington mission is a part of the political maturation of the Jewish community in America. It is a refinement in strategy. Obviously, it is here to stay. Its effects can only be positive.

Soviet Communist Party regains control over foreign policy

By Andrew Rosenthal
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev has shifted control over major foreign policy decisions from the foreign ministry back to the Communist Party, Soviet and Western sources say.

These include decisions on such crucial matters as the timing of summits and the shaping of arms control strategy, according to the sources.

The change has been accomplished through carefully paced personnel changes that have realigned the policy-making system created by Andrei A. Gromyko in his 28 years as foreign minister.

A senior Soviet official and Western diplomatic sources said the Kremlin also has shuffled the organisation of the foreign ministry, making it more similar and accessible to its foreign counterparts.

To accompany this effort, the Kremlin has stepped up the modern public relations effort that has become a hallmark of Gorbachev's 17 months in power.

The shift of control from ministry to party is not expected to produce any dramatic turnarounds in Soviet foreign policy. But it has given control to Gorbachev's new Kremlin generation and some departures from the Brezhnev-Gromyko era have already been seen.

These include a new emphasis on Asia and a more sophisticated approach to arms control. The Soviets have replaced the practice of alternating bluster and cold silence with well-timed initiatives that aim to keep the United States on the defensive and attract support in Western Europe and the Third World.

The changes wrought so far in the basic mechanics of decision-making are significant. In the last years of his tenure, Gromyko was thought to have assumed virtual mastery over foreign policy.

But less than four months after Gorbachev took power, he was shifted to the largely ceremonial post of president and replaced by Eduard A. Shevardnadze, leader of the Georgian Communist Party.

Shevardnadze had little foreign policy experience, but he was a tested party stalwart. His appointment was widely seen as a step toward reasserting party control and resurrecting the party's moribund international department, then run by Boris N. Ponomarev.

"Ponomarev's role was restricted to chattering up and quarrelling with foreign communists," said a Soviet source, who asked not to be named. "The international department had no role in dealing with the West, or in making major policy decisions."

Ponomarev retired in early March and was replaced by Anatoly F. Dobrynin, the longtime ambassador to Washington.

Dobrynin took with him first deputy foreign minister Georgy M. Kornienko, a specialist on superpower issues who had worked for Dobrynin at the Washington embassy in the 1960s. Dobrynin placed Kornienko above Ponomarev's long-time deputy, Vadim V. Zagladin, who assumed Ponomarev's interparty duties.

Yuli M. Vorontsov, former

ambassador to Paris and also a veteran of the Washington embassy, replaced Kornienko at the ministry.

The other first deputy foreign minister, 68-year-old Viktor F. Maltsev, was retired and replaced by Anatoly G. Kovalev, deputy minister for foreign policy planning.

Thus, the sources said, Dobrynin became the most influential man after Gorbachev in Soviet foreign policy.

"The big decisions — whether to have a new summit, should we continue our nuclear test moratorium — are made at the party level," the Soviet source said. "Of course, the foreign minister is a powerful man, with a seat on the politburo, and has a say in what is decided."

The ministry's role is more limited to executing policy and administering the foreign service.

Among important changes already noted in Soviet policy are a renewed emphasis on Asia, drained in late July by Gorbachev's overtures to China and Japan and his promise of a small withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

The Soviets also are about to discuss consular relations with Israel, but officials say this does not mean diplomatic relations will be restored without Israel giving up Arab occupied territories.

Gorbachev also doesn't appear willing to make major concessions to China, and warned the Soviets are not yet willing to pull out of Afghanistan entirely.

Among the most important structural changes under way in the foreign ministry is creation of an arms control and disarmament desk under veteran negotiator Viktor Karpov.

The Soviets also have established desks for economic ties, cultural and humanitarian contacts, peaceful space cooperation and other areas.

"These are aligned more closely to the U.S. State Department and West European ministries," a diplomat said. "Now, we don't have to cast about as much to find someone to talk to over there."

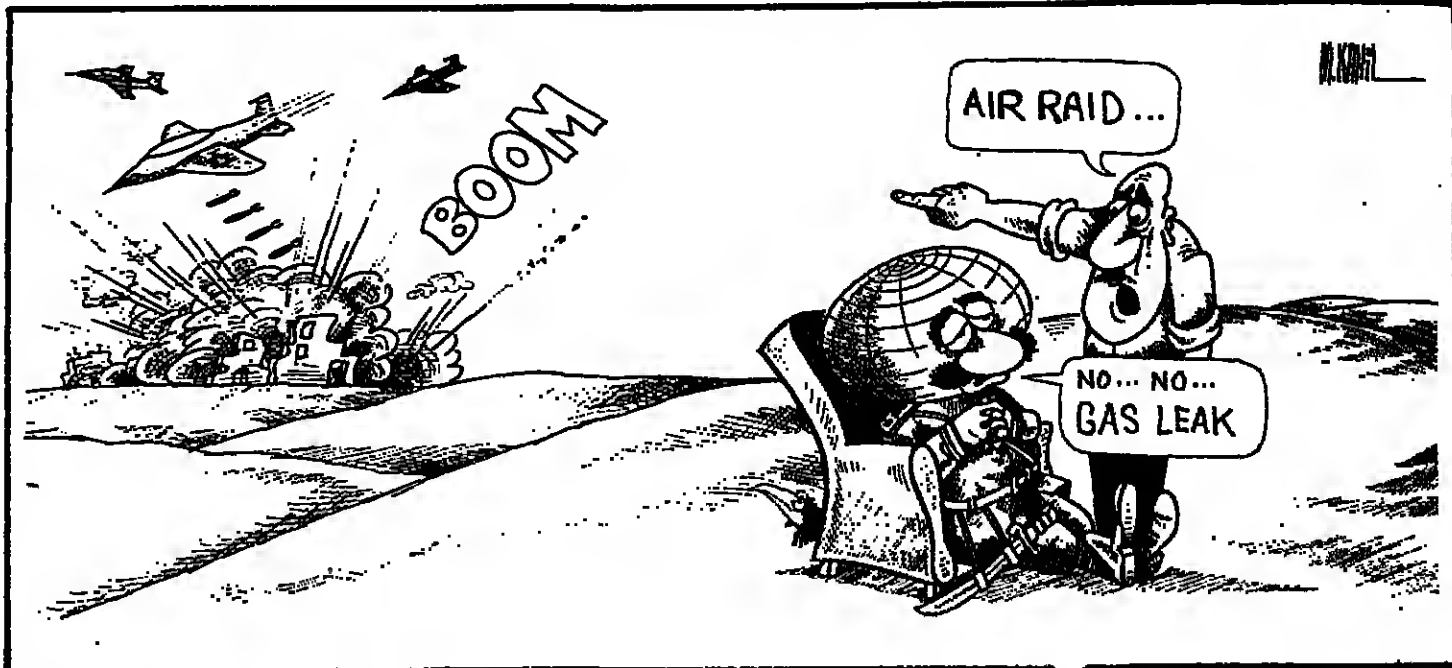
The diplomat said the new head of the humanitarian contacts section, Yuri Kashlev, is typical of the new foreign ministry executive — smooth, fluent in English and unafraid to discuss touchy subjects like dissident Andrei Sakharov or Jewish emigration.

"He'll tell you it's not within his power to do anything, but he'll listen," the diplomat said.

Ministry departments are being shuffled to conform with geographic and political reality, doing away with outdated practice that put Britain into the "second European department" with Australia, Canada, Ireland, Malta and New Zealand.

Britain is now in a new department, and Canada has been shifted to a "North America department" that includes the United States. The old U.S. department chief, Alexander Bessmertnykh, is now a deputy foreign minister and has not been replaced.

The ministry also has a new and more active "information board" that combines the old press department, charged with handling foreign correspondents, and the information department, which promoted Soviet foreign policy abroad and funneled information on policy, personnel and other matters to embassies.



South Africa's rulers cannot understand world's outrage

By Ruth Pitchford
Reuters

CAPE TOWN — The white men and women whose party has ruled South Africa for nearly 40 years rally at a special congress this week outraged by the world's condemnation of their leaders.

The faithful of the National Party have been summoned to the congress in Durban on Tuesday amid a tide of demands abroad for international sanctions aimed at forcing the racist regime of President P.W. Botha to scrap apartheid and usher in black majority rule.

For most "Nats," as the party's supporters are popularly known, the sanction demands seem at best based on ignorance of South African realities, at worst on Communist-inspired malice.

The average "Nat" activist — middle-class, middle-aged and, of course, white — is angered by the world's rejection of what the party sees as Botha's generous scrapping of "discriminatory" aspects of apartheid.

For most of the black majority, apartheid is by definition discriminatory. For most black leaders, nothing less than one person, one vote will do.

For Botha's foreign critics, his

refusal to abolish apartheid's cornerstones is responsible for 30 months of violent revolt in the country's black townships.

But the Botha reforms which black leaders dismiss contemptuously have required an upheaval in thinking among the "Nats." They have been brought up on a racial ideology which reserved 85 per cent of South Africa exclusively for whites and ensured that they met blacks only as subordinates at work.

The National Party was built in the depression years of the 1930s, when the demand for political economic power came not from blacks but from Afrikaner whites.

Mostly descended from Dutch settlers, Afrikaners had created their own language and put down their roots in Africa.

When the depression drove them from their farms to eke out a living in the cities, many feared for the loss of their cultural identity and resented the domination of the business scene by English-speaking whites. Then they came into conflict for jobs and status with a mushrooming black urban population.

The National Party emerged to defend Afrikaners, evolving an ideology of racial separation in which blacks would quit the cities to seek their own tribal identities,

leaving the rest of South Africa a safe place for Afrikaners.

The party won power by a narrow majority in 1948 and set about ensuring that no Afrikaner would have to sit by a black on the bus, let alone compete with him for a job.

Botha, who took over the leadership in 1978, has led an ideological revolution in National Party terms, acknowledging that many blacks live permanently in "white" South Africa, giving hotel owners the right to decide if they will admit black drinkers and allowing blacks and whites to marry.

The far right walked out of the party in 1982 in protest against plans, since implemented, to give minorities classified as coloured (mixed-race) and Indian a junior role in parliament.

But the National Party has a strong tradition of rubber-stamping the decisions of the strong leaders, in the faith that they know what is best for Afrikaners.

Harald Pakenhorst — editor of the pro-nationalist Die Vaderland newspaper until May, when his "verligte" (enlightened) views became too much for its publishers — thinks the party would follow a leader much

further than Botha seems ready to go in giving blacks at least qualified political power.

Botha has summoned this week's unusual congress of the party's four provincial branches — normally they meet separately — to drum up support for his reforms so far and rally the faithful so that they can reassure the voters.

But analysts expect him to have an easy ride. They believe that most Afrikaners — plus the English-speaking voters Botha has attracted — will rally to the National Party in crisis.

Besides, while the state of emergency he imposed in June may have incensed the outside world, the harsh measures seem to have gained white approval.

"There was a little dissatisfaction when it appeared the government was not in control of law and order, but the dissent was not about reform," Pakenhorst told Reuters. "When the government clamped down, the dissatisfaction died down."

With the National Party reassured that the security forces are in control of what the state-run broadcasting media portray as merely "black unrest" caused by Communists and agitators, the Durban congress should present the desired face of unity.

Garcia, in second year, faces rising unrest

By Sarah Graham
The Associated Press

LIMA, Peru — A youthful President Alan Garcia took office a year ago, riding a wave of popularity with foreign investors, Peruvian businessmen and the general public, who thought change was in store for Peru's floundering economy.

Indeed, some progress has been made since the 37-year-old Garcia, popular for his nationalistic, non-aligned politics, took office on July 28, 1985 and imposed a package of severe economy austerity measures.

But 12 months later, people are more critical of the centre-left government, though polls still show Garcia to have high personal popularity. The country also is facing increased attacks mounted by leftist guerrillas.

Garcia has given up his spontaneous appearances on a government palace balcony that used to draw thousands of cheering listeners.

"He says so many crazy things, who knows whether he'll make good on them?" said Socorro Carrillo, who is president of the government-run Mothers Club in the shantytown where she lives.

Among its initial measures, Garcia's Aprista party government devalued the Peruvian currency by 12 per cent, froze the dollar exchange rate and dollar bank accounts and ordered a freeze in the prices of all goods and services.

But the across-the-board price freezes were never fully imposed.

The government has estimated inflation for its first 12 months in office as 68 per cent.

Independent senator Enrique Chirinos Soto, a former member of Garcia's party, called the price controls "window dressing." He said the freeze on exchange rates "is artificial and depresses our exports right at the time when we need to be exporting."

Garcia told congress July 28 that Peru is expected to lose some \$500 million in export income this year because of falling prices on the world market for minerals and oil, Peru's main exports.

When he assumed power, Peru's foreign reserves were \$963 million. Through the freeze on the dollar exchange rate and a ceiling on foreign debt payments of 10 per cent of export earnings, the reserves climbed to \$1.5 billion by the end of March. But as of June 15 the reserves had fallen to \$1.3 billion.

In the July address, marking Peru's independence day, Garcia announced that payments would be restricted for the next two years on the \$2-billion debt the country's private businesses owe abroad. He did not elaborate on what the restrictions would be.

He also announced a one-year extension of the 10-per cent ceiling on payments of the country's \$12-billion public debt.

"These measures are a temporary limit so that the resources generated within the country can be retained... and be applied by their owners to the productive investment the nation needs," Garcia said.

A manager of a textile factory, speaking on conditions of anonymity, said he had voted for Garcia but that he and other businessmen were becoming apprehensive about the nation's future.

"With the limit on private debt payments, if I want to buy a machine outside of Peru, will they sell it to me or not? I don't know if I'm going to be allowed to pay for it," he said.

Garcia, who in his inaugural address also vowed not to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund because its austerity programme exacted too high a price from Peru's poor, may face a confrontation with the IMF Aug. 15 when a \$186-million debt payment comes due.

If the payment is not made, the IMF has said Peru risks being declared ineligible for new aid. The government has said it will not make the full payment, but has not specified how much it will pay.

Over the past year, Peru has paid \$320 million of some \$2.2 billion in debt payments it was supposed to make.

Even the president seems to have been taxed by the first year of his five-year term. For the July 28 speech, a visibly drawn Garcia rode in his limousine the four blocks from the government palace to the national congress instead of walking and waving to the crowd as he did last year.

Part of that may have come from a justifiable concern about guerrilla violence. One the eve of the independence day address, leftist insurgents bombed a series

of targets around Lima, set off incendiary devices at three tourist hotels and blacked out part of the city.

The Maoist-inspired Shining Path movement has vowed to seek revenge on Garcia for the killings of as many as 250 rioting rebels in June when police and armed forces troops stormed and razed three prisons in June. Rebel attacks since then have been on the rise.

But despite having lost some of the charisma that brought him to office, public opinion polls show Garcia still enjoys remarkable popularity with Peruvians.

One, published in the independent magazine *Caracas*, said almost 76 per cent of those polled in July approved of his performance, compared to slightly more than 85 per cent in March.

Sigmund Weil, the owner of a small furniture store said: "For me things have gone better in the last year despite inflation. Furniture prices have gone up more than 100 per cent, but there are people willing to pay."

And despite Peru's economic woes, working-class residents in the capital still tend to see Garcia as their "president of hope," as he was called when he was elected.

Garcia for the most part has protected Peruvian's buying power by slowing price increases on many products and decreasing periodic price rises for state and private employees.

"I have seen that people have more money to spend," said Gerardo Torres, a taxi driver. "They are carrying packages, going shopping."

Decentralisation to benefit Third World education

By Afzal Khan

WASHINGTON — Decentralisation, introduction of technology, and more efficient use of available resources can speed up education in Third World countries, according to the administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

In an address to the Society for International Development, Peter McPherson said although rapid gains had been made in education in the last 20 years, the pace has slowed down because of burgeoning enrollment and limited financial resources in many developing countries.

In order to build up momentum again, McPherson said Third World countries would have to decentralise their educational systems, introduce new technology and make more efficient use of available resources.

Addressing the need for decentralisation, McPherson said much more should be done by local communities to take charge of their children's education. He said in early America, the primary responsibility for providing and maintaining the school, hiring the teacher and getting the textbooks was a local community or parent responsibility. The teachers then had to prove their competence by getting state certification from

boards in their respective states. McPherson said "this blend of local control, community involvement, and state certification still characterises public education throughout most of the United States" while most developing countries "have inherited or developed education systems that put the major burden on national budgets."

Reflecting on USAID's educational experience overseas over the past three decades, McPherson believes "the time is right for involving local communities to a greater extent in the management and financing of local education systems."

According to him, developing countries could do the following at the local level:

- Raise education monies with local property taxes or other taxes;

- Encourage the use of school fees and other direct contributions;

- Levy payroll taxes on employers to finance vocational training. This is currently being done in several Latin American countries;

- Initiate special lotteries for educational expenditures as a number of countries have done;

- Central governments might provide matching grants to serve as an incentive to generate funds locally for school building and similar purposes.

McPherson said, "I believe we

should encourage countries to look for opportunities to increase local tax authority." In this way revenues can be retained in local communities, under the control of local officials and for the support of local education programmes, he explained. He revealed that the World Bank in coordination with USAID is taking a more in-depth look at decentralisation.

But McPherson agreed that in most countries, the central authorities will continue to provide a substantial share of the finance. He suggested some activities "probably should remain at the central level," such as:

- Establishing standards for teacher recruitment and training;

- Determining the core curriculum;

- Selecting and procuring textbooks and teachers' guides.

But other activities, according to him, appear more appropriate at the local level, such as:

- Classroom construction and maintenance;

- Supplementing the core curriculum and national textbooks with locally generated materials;

- Recruitment and employment of teachers.

How to balance responsibilities and the most effective location of control will differ in each country in each region of the world," said McPherson. But he reiterated, "Basically, I am convinced that

the average parent living in Third World countries perceives the value of education and will make the necessary sacrifices for his or her children to obtain it."

Examples of decentralisation mentioned by McPherson include:

- The large-scale Harambee movement in Kenya, where local communities provide their own schools;

- The Andean provinces of Cuzco, Puno and Apurimac in Peru that have provided classroom space and support for teachers in their preschool project.

- Some type of administrative decentralisation in Zimbabwe, Paraguay, Brazil, Jordan and Korea to tie the costs and control of education more directly to those who benefit from it. In Zimbabwe alone, in only five years primary enrollment increased from about 900,000 to over 2 million and secondary enrollment from about 60,000 to over 400,000.

Moving on to the more efficient use of available resources, McPherson said, "Despite good intentions, too many countries waste money on education which is inefficient and ineffective." According to him, many countries cannot seem to keep up with the expanding enrollments and still maintain satisfactory quality.

McPherson said USAID has recently worked in Somalia, Botswana, Indonesia, Haiti and

Yemen under a ten-year project to improve the efficiency of education systems. According to him, those countries have made "difficult policy decisions" based on the information collected in the assessments. He said in many countries in Africa, for example, 100 primary students can be educated for the cost of one university student but "knowing this data is the first step toward making rational allocations," he said.

Because it is clear that the absence of "strategies to cope with the management and administration of the educational system is holding back progress" in developing countries, McPherson has suggested that the United States (through USAID) should support improvement in educational planning, administration and management of resources. According to him, such support should lead to significant increases in the number of students completing the system and might mean substantial improvement in access for girls, the rural poor, and children of urban slums.

Regarding the use of technology to improve education in developing countries, McPherson quoted the use of radio for educational instruction in the Dominican Republic and Nepal.

In the Dominican Republic, USAID's radio project for the

past four years has been reaching children with an hour of basic education each day in 50 communities in the poor southwest region of the country.

According to McPherson, studies show that such radio coverage of virtually all geographic areas where there are no schools could be accomplished in a few years at a per pupil cost of half that of regular schools.

In Nepal, a USAID project using radio instruction is helping to upgrade the skills of rural teachers in remote areas. Instead of leaving their jobs and moving to a university campus, the radio brings instruction to them where they are.

McPherson said other technologies also promise to help countries improve the management of education resources. USAID, for example, is supporting the development of computer simulation models and management software for making education projections and analysing problems.

In conclusion, McPherson emphasised that decentralisation, efficiency and technology can work together to improve the quality of educational services to the citizens of developing countries. He said USAID has allocated about \$50 million into education this fiscal year, excluding general training programmes — U.S. Information Agency.

Algeria makes massive swing to desert farming

By Joelle Stolz
The Associated Press

OUARGLA, Algeria — Deep in the Algerian Sahara, huge fields of wheat, oats and barley sprout. The average rainfall here is zero and there had been no farming since time immemorial.

Falling world oil prices have transformed parts of this desert, where settlements once huddled only near oil rigs. Algeria's Sahara is converting from black gold to what officials call the "green gold" of a farm revolution.

When French colonial rule ended 24 years ago, Algeria turned to hard-line Socialism that sought to use petroleum to build an industrial country virtually overnight.

Prosperous French farms along a narrow irrigated coastal strip were socialised and fell largely into ruin. Soon, more than 98 per cent of national income came from oil. North America and Europe were the source of most food.

Now, President Chadli Benjedid, faced with a 25 per cent drop in oil and gas income, is opening the desert to private farmers with land grants, new irrigation methods, subsidies and other incentives.

Problems remain, including obtaining replacement parts for irrigation equipment and desalinating some water supplies.

But the need to feed 24 million inhabitants — increasing by 3.3 per cent a year, one of the world's highest rates — has swept away old prejudices against private initiative.

The 1985-1989 five year plan for the first time gives absolute priority to agriculture. Any Algerian who will cultivate it can have a plot of previously barren land, along with equipment and technical aid.

Price controls on some farm products have been eased.

More than 12,000 years ago, pastoralists pictured their rich herds of sheep, goats and cattle on rock walls in colourful paintings still preserved in the dry air. They also painted giraffes, elephants and hippos as well as other wildlife that has long since disappeared.

A dramatic change of climate turned the land into part of the world's largest desert, but vast lakes millions of years old remained trapped underground.

The desert soil is fertile, but surface water evaporates under the ever-burning sun. The Algerians are now tapping underground water to make the desert come to life.

American engineers under contract use methods already proved successful in Libya and Saudi Arabia. They sink deep artesian wells from which water flows to the surface under its own pressure.

Revolving tubes fixed to a central pivot, and mostly driven just by the pressure from underground, distribute the water evenly. The circular fields, averaging one hectare each, are rapidly changing the monotonous landscape into a patchwork of green circles.

Western Agro Management, a U.S. company, has built an initial group of 1,000 pivot fields. The government plans to develop another 100,000 hectares within five years.

An Algerian government engineer, banned by official policy from identifying himself by name, said there was enough water to allow permanent pivot irrigation of more than 500,000 hectares almost doubling the land under cultivation throughout Algeria.

During the past two years, free land distribution has drawn more than 30,000 small farmers to desert and semi-desert areas, many of them pivot fields. They grow grain and vegetables, relieving the nation's critical trade deficit.

Algeria's grain production nearly doubled last year to 3 million tons, while vegetable output increased by 27 per cent. The country may soon be self-sufficient in potatoes and for the first time in 20 years, is planning exports to Europe.

But substantial government aid is not enough. Irrigation equipment is fragile and spare parts are hard to find. Transportation is difficult to the remote fields.

Some salty underground water must be filtered. Markets are hundreds of miles to the north, and state distribution organisations are chronically inefficient.

And, experts say, Algerians are unlikely to become self-sufficient in food without controlling their population explosion. Current projections place the population beyond 36 million by the end of the century.

Despite the "green gold" revolution, overall grain imports remain at more than 4 million tons per year and grow by nearly 10 per cent annually with no decline in sight.

"Producing more good is our biggest challenge," the engineer said. "But it's not the only one."

Was Washington a swamp? Historians bogged down

By Barbara S. Moffet
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Every summer, as rising humidity transforms Washington into a steam bath, somebody sets down his glass of lemonade and declares, "Of course, we know why it's so humid here. Washington was built on a swamp."

Was it? It's true that Constitution Avenue used to be a waterway, and an inlet of the Potomac River lapped at the back yard of the White House. But some historians are saying that the capital-in-a-swamp image has been laid on a bit thick.

"Washington was not built on a swamp. It was soggy pastureland at most," says Kenneth Bowling, a historian who is writing a book on the capital's early days. "The swamp idea was spread by Yankees who thought going south was death."

Gary Scott, regional historian for the National Park Service, won't go that far. "I wouldn't call old Washington a swamp like the Everglades, but it was certainly marshy around the river bottoms," he says.

Swamps and hills

But Don A. Hawkins, a Washington architect who has intensively studied engineering maps of the old city, has his own view: "Washington was not built on a swamp — it was built on at least four swamps and several hills."

One swamp, he says, was just south west of the White House; another, about a mile north. The third lay about a mile north of the U.S. Capitol, and the fourth ran from Capitol Hill's west side down

toward today's Fort McNair, on the Anacostia River.

Other historians add to Washington's swamp list. The area now called Foggy Bottom, where the State Department is located, used to attract more waterfowl than diplomats, they say. Much of the Virginia banks of the Potomac River was mosquito-infested marsh.

A swamp, as defined by dictionaries, is a piece of wet, spongy land, a marsh, or a bog. "These elements certainly were a part of the topography of the District of Columbia, and in fact existed long before the initial survey of the District," says Larry Baume, curator of the Columbia Historical Society, which keeps track of the history of Washington.

Records from the 1790s show that George Washington, one of the chief boosters of the site for the new federal city, tiptoed around the area's swampy features, instead describing its loftier points.

But Thomas Jefferson, who also favoured the site for the new capital, wrote of its "hills, valleys, morasses and waters" in 1791. While he was president, he retreated to Monticello, his hilltop Virginia estate, in July and August.

As the federal city blossomed, northern newspaper satirists referred to the Capitol building as the "place in the wilderness" and Pennsylvania Avenue as the "great Serbonian bog." And there were plenty of locals willing to call a swamp a swamp.

'Strange sight'

Accounts of several early

residents of Washington are summed up by Albert J. Beveridge in his "Life of John Marshall":

"A strange sight met the eye of the traveller who, aboard one of the little river sailboats of the time, reached the stretches of the sleepy Potomac separating Alexandria and Georgetown. A wide swamp extended inland from a modest hill on the east to a still lower elevation of land about a mile to the west."

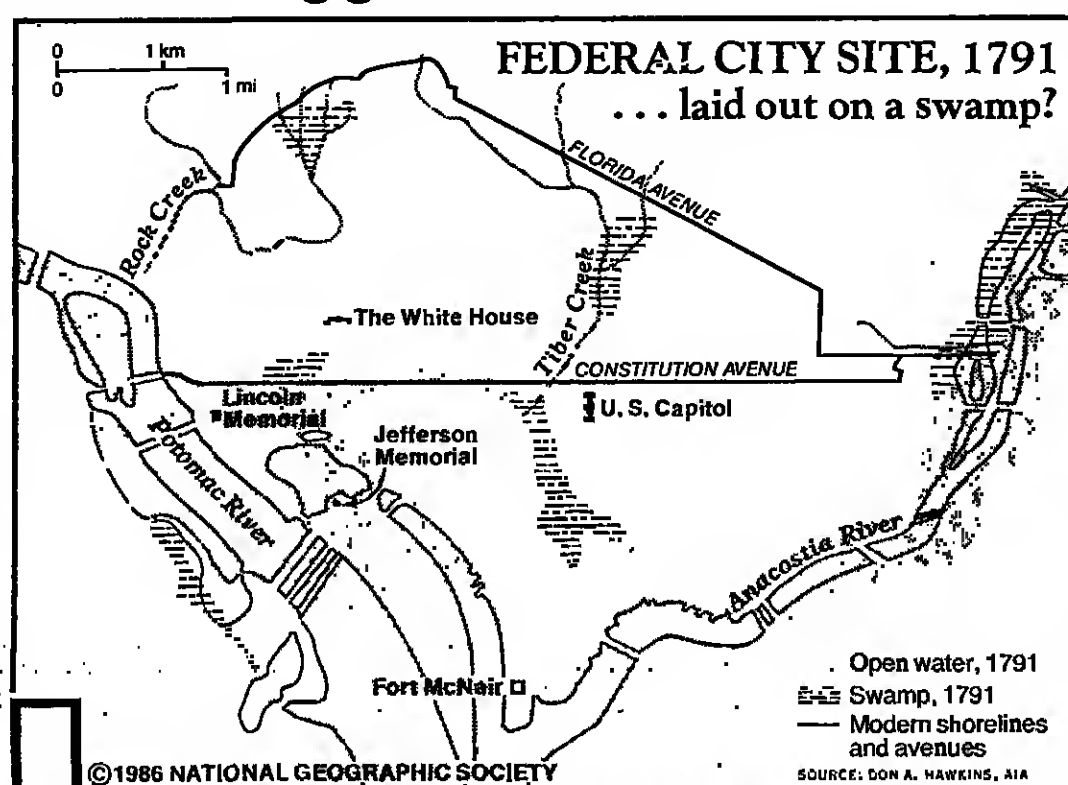
And Christian Hines, a resident of young Washington, writes in his "Early Recollections of Washington City": "From about Caru's saloon up to Seventh-street bridge there was a considerable swamp, overgrown with bushes, briars, thorns, etc."

Swamp or no swamp, Washington then was certainly a soggy place than it is now. The Mall, now home of Smithsonian Institution museums, was flooded enough for boat traffic; water regularly inundated the site of today's National Gallery of Art.

Constitution Avenue, the present location of many federal buildings, was not a street but a canal. Built in 1815 along Tiber Creek, the Washington Canal was first suggested by Pierre L'Enfant, designer of the capital, as a way to move people and goods through the new city.

The canal, however, soon became a shallow open sewer that carried more garbage than people. In the 1870s it was filled in, although Tiber Creek still runs underground through a series of culverts.

An inlet of the Potomac River in the 1800s reached nearly to the White House, enabling President John Quincy Adams to stroll out



The site of the U.S. capital originally was studded with swampy patches, wide rivers, and creeks. The White House, first occupied in 1800, was built near a swamp, and so was the U.S. Capitol. The Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials rose on new land in the 1900s.

the back door for a swim. The river was then twice its current width at the site of today's National Mall.

Wild rice grew in the marsh on the south banks of the Anacostia River, where presidential helicopters are now hangared. East and West Potomac Parks, where memorials of Lincoln and Jefferson stand, used to be nothing but water and silt. The parks were creations of engineers who dredged and filled the river late in the 19th century.

Stranded in trees

One of the swampiest areas was just south west of the Capitol. Christian Hines writes that one day during the Capitol's construction, workmen leaving the job were swept away by rising rainwaters and forced to scramble up trees.

At that point, Hines writes, President Jefferson came by on horseback and offered cash to anyone who would try to save the men. Eventually, the author

writes, they were "rescued from the swamp."

While historians get bogged down over the city's recent geography, they must agree that Washington's prehistoric roots are definitely swampy.

In 1921, workmen excavating the foundation of a downtown hotel found hundreds of bald-cypress stumps. Geologists identified them as part of a cypress swamp that covered a portion of today's city 38,000 years ago, during the Pleistocene epoch.

America's once dominant network runs into hard times

By Peter Elsworth

Reuter

NEW YORK — CBS, America's largest broadcasting company, the network of Edward R. Murrow and Walter Cronkite and long an industry trendsetter in news and entertainment, is going through unusually hard times.

Since the beginning of 1985, it has fallen to the number two spot behind NBC in viewer ratings and did not have a single hit among its new shows last season. In April it lost the prime-time ratings race for the first time in six seasons and its flagship evening news show with anchorman Dan Rather has dropped from the top spot for the first time in five years.

The latest spate of bad news follows a turbulent year in which it fought off a dramatic takeover bid by Atlanta broadcaster Ted Turner, sold its money-losing musical instruments and toys divisions, announced the elimination of about 700 jobs in its broadcast group and decided to drop its morning news show at the end of the year.

Last Wednesday, chairman Thomas Wyman shocked Wall Street by announcing the company expects substantially lower profits for the balance of 1986 due to weaker advertising sales.

The combination of disinflation, slow real economic growth and increased competition has resulted in the weakest network marketplace since 1971, when cigarette advertising was banned," he said.

The bleak profit outlook sent the CBS share price down nearly \$10 to about \$128 in two days last week.

It was a major

disappointment," said Richard MacDonald, a broadcasting industry analyst with stockbrokers First Boston, adding, "it indicates their strategy of maintaining market share by selling advertising time at discount prices has failed."

While the company had earlier projected advertising revenue growing four per cent this year, Wyman said it now expects no growth at all. The growth in advertising sales has been slowing due to lower inflation, changing advertiser strategies and competition from cable TV.

The three networks — CBS, General Electric's NBC and capital cities' ABC — have already sold nearly \$2.5 billion worth of advertising for the 1986-87 season which begins with the coming of autumn in September. About two-thirds of prime-time advertising is sold before the season starts.

However, while NBC has managed to increase its prices by about five per cent, CBS and ABC have been forced to cut their prices by the same amount due to their lower ratings.

"Sure this market is tough but this problem has CBS written all over it," MacDonald said, adding that he lowered his estimate of CBS's 1986 profits to \$6.50 from \$8 a share.

Wyman's announcement follows CBS's decision — announced just over a week ago — to drop its "Morning News" show, co-anchored by Maria Shriver, a dark-eyed brunette member of the Kennedy clan who recently made headlines by marrying film tough guy Arnold Schwarzenegger. The axe will fall at the end of the year after years of

desperate attempts to compete with NBC's "Today" programme and ABC's "Good Morning America."

Fred Friendly, former president of CBS news, said the decision to drop the morning news and replace it possibly with entertainment was "tragic," adding that the problem resulted from a blurring of the line between news and entertainment.

William Paley, who founded the company in 1926, was the first to realise the enormous selling power of broadcasting by selling air time to advertisers.

For years, the network was known as America's tastemaker, with newsmen like Murrow and

Cronkite and its galaxy of stars, including Jack Benny, Lucille Ball, Mary Tyler Moore and Carroll O'Connor (Archie Bunker).

Until ABC stole away its number one spot in the 1976-77 season, CBS had dominated the TV ratings for 20 solid years — throughout television's early history. It regained the top spot in 1979-80 and retained it until it was eclipsed by NBC in the middle of the 1984-85 season. ABC currently stands last.

Apart from the loss of pride CBS is not in a good position financially to continue losing out to the other networks. Last year it took on nearly a billion dollars in

debt to buy back 21 per cent of its stock and thwart a takeover bid by Turner.

An additional attempt by a group headed by Jesse Helms, the conservative Republican senator from North Carolina, to exert its influence on the network brought in a "white knight" in the form of investor Laurence Tisch, chairman of Loews Corporation, who now owns nearly 20 per cent of CBS stock.

Together with Paley, who owns about eight per cent, Tisch is regarded as having a dominant influence on the company's future. Rumours abound that both are concerned about Wyman's leadership but so far no move has

been made to oust him.

Although CBS's publishing subsidiary is having its problems, the record group remains profitable. And in an attempt to make sure it climbs back on the ratings wagon, CBS has spent a record amount in developing new shows for the upcoming season.

Given that the networks' second-half results often hinge on sales of still unsold advertising, sudden success by a new CBS show could mean a quick reversal of its fortunes.

"It's not inconceivable that there might be a pleasant surprise in the fourth quarter," said Fred Ansel of brokers Dean Witter Reynolds.

Warning: Malaria is growing threat

By Peter Heinlein

A LEADING German specialist in tropical medicine says Western drug manufacturers and politicians are not doing enough to fight the threat of malaria.

Professor Manfred Dietrich, head of the Bernhard Nocht Institute, Hamburg, says the malaria threat is an unprecedented time bomb.

Mosquitoes are growing increasingly resistant to drugs, especially in Africa. They are even impervious to drugs not yet freely available in the West.

"Industry," Professor Dietrich says, "is dragging its feet on the development of new drugs, which is very expensive, mainly on account of indispensable field trials."

"If new drugs have to be sold at below cost price in countries affected because governments

simply can't afford to pay more, then manufacturing them doesn't pay."

Hans Joachim Cramer, board spokesman of the West German Pharmaceutical Industry Association, says Professor Dietrich lacks an overview of the situation.

Herr Cramer cited two malaria research projects as exemplary: "Hoechst are working on a malaria vaccine. They have research institutes in Brazil. Hoffmann-La Roche are working with the World Health Organisation on a treatment system."

He admitted that little headway was being made in Africa. Even supplying drugs free of charge wouldn't work in countries that lacked a satisfactory health system.

But there was market potential in threshold countries, while

growing numbers of holidaymakers from Europe visited areas where malaria is endemic.

"Malaria research is not an exotic subject; it is research for much of mankind," Professor Dietrich says.

Its findings are relevant to cancer and allergy research and transplantation techniques. These are additional incentives for industrial countries to promote malaria research.

"Take AIDS for instance," he says, "which began as an African venereal disease. The last three years of AIDS research have added tremendously to our knowledge of the human body's immune system."

Professor Dietrich says about 2,000 millions people live in parts of the world where malaria is endemic and between 250 and 450 million people a year suffer

from the disease, which is transmitted by 50 varieties of mosquito.

In Africa alone about one million children aged under five die of malaria," he says.

In the Federal Republic of Germany between 500 and 1,000 people a year contract malaria and between five and ten per cent of them die. They need it die but treatment has to start within a few days.

Travellers to areas where malaria might be contracted must take malaria pills, wear sturdy clothes regardless of the heat and take precautions against insect bites. Mosquito nets are important at night.

"Malaria," Professor Dietrich warns, "is one of the most underrated diseases in the world" — The German Tribune.

U.S. seed science maintains worldwide research

JOHNSTON, Iowa (USIA) — Crop improvement is moving ahead on two levels, both of which can benefit Third World farmers, according to a U.S. plant-breeding authority.

While traditional plant breeding is making improved crops available now, new methods of gene-splicing and molecular genetics will be the wave of the agricultural future, according to Dr. William L. Brown, retired president and chairman of the Pioneer Hi-Bred International Corporation.

In an interview in his office near Des Moines, Iowa, Dr. Brown described some of the new crop developments that Pioneer is taking to the rest of the world. The most recent project is a research facility at Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, the firm's first in Africa. Under the direction of Dr. Harouna Dosso of the Ivory Coast, plants will be grown and selected for acclimatisation to conditions in West Africa.

This facility, like Pioneer's other international subsidiaries, will provide research and development for maize and other crops, adapting them for local use and for farmers in other similar locations.

Besides its new effort in Ivory Coast, Pioneer has facilities in Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Jamaica and Mexico); in East Asia and the Pacific region (Australia, Japan, Philippines and Thailand); in Europe (Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Spain); in the Near East and South Asia (Egypt and India); and in Canada. These centres are developing new seed sources for maize, wheat and other cereals, soybeans, sorghum, grass and similar forage plants and sunflowers.

Dr. Brown noted that there is more to crop development than increasing the number of maize ears per plant. A prime objective, he said, is a plant which resists the hazards of weather, pests and diseases, and yet costs less to grow because it requires smaller quantities of fertilisers and pesticides and suffers fewer losses.

Director of Personnel Nick Frey describes Pioneer as "a research-based company," intent on using the tools offered by cellular and molecular biology. He says the varied projects of Pioneer's high-tech division include one involving work with bacteria which produce a

substance that, when ingested, kills corn borers without affecting the ecosystem, as do pesticides.

Dr. Brown said, "I think the farmers of most developing countries need a great many things before they need biotechnology. I know biotechnology is going to play a role in future plant improvement. It is not going to replace the classical approaches, but it is going to complement and supplement them."

Like biotechnology, investments like the new facility in Ivory Coast are long-term, risky expenditures, said Frey.

Dr. Brown explained that in a new country the company's first task is to adapt its varieties to that area. "One cannot move hybrids around from one place to another in the world," he said. "The environmental conditions are different."

Local crop varieties are important to the breeding of introduced germplasm, Frey said, because plants have adapted to local conditions through natural selection. Hardiness through adaptation, added to the productivity and other qualities of an introduced type, can produce a plant more useful than either plant alone can be.

In the Philippines, Pioneer relied heavily on local maize stocks in developing downy mildew resistance, said Frey. In Egypt, on the other hand, Pioneer had a variety with disease resistance which helped a severely threatened local crop, he said.

Company activities in any new area open a new kind of technology transfer, said Frey. "If we open a station in India, for instance, they don't have to start at square one... They will get all the technology we have developed for the last 60 years."

Dr. Brown said that in his opinion, the developing world has not taken full advantage of the availability of technology, such as maize strains developed in the United States.

The public and private sectors complement one another in the seed business, Frey explained. Government — agriculture researchers and extension services — and university facilities often develop new germplasm, then look to private companies to do breeding and adapting, said Frey. In turn

British MPs call for strict measures to curb soccer hoodlums

LONDON (AP) — British lawmakers Monday called for the permanent confiscation of passports and the restoration of corporal punishment in the wake of the latest wave of violence involving the country's soccer fans.

"We have been mauling them for too long. Now we must put that into effect," said John Carlisle, a member of parliament from Britain's ruling Conservative Party.

"We need merciless, eye-for-an-eye punishment. We must hit them hard where they hit others."

The English Football Association said it was "totally frustrated" in trying to stop soccer violence.

Soccer officials also said that the latest violence could delay for several years the re-admission of English clubs to European competitions.

Scores of Manchester United backers went on a rampage in Amsterdam late Sunday night after their team lost an exhibition match to the local Dutch side, Ajax, at the end of a preseason tournament.

They smashed windows, wrecked a bar in the centre of the city and fought running battles

with police in the red-light district. It was the third brawl in four days involving English soccer fans.

Thursday night, a North Sea ferry en route to The Netherlands tournament returned to England when fighting broke out between fans of rival English teams. Five people were injured, three with stab wounds, and 14 arrested.

The ship later resailed after 110 soccer fans were taken off by police.

Early Saturday, several hundred youths battled in the streets of Plymouth in southwest England following another preseason game against London team Chelsea. The season begins Aug. 23.

"There must be legislation to restore corporal punishment for this particular offense. What is needed is a good, sound birching, a long stiff sentence in the worst possible conditions in a miserable prison," Carlisle said.

Politicians were united in calling for passports to be withdrawn from known soccer hoodlums.

"Their passports should be taken away and not restored for five years," another Conservative, Peter Bruinvels, said.

Another member of parliament, Robert Hayward, wrote to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher urging her to "introduce a more strict review of the rights of people to retain their passports."

Budd is selected to compete for Britain at Stuttgart meet

LONDON (AP) — South African-born runner Zola Budd was selected Monday to represent Britain in both the 1,500 and 3,000 metres at this month's European Track and Field Championships, despite losing her last three races.

Budd has been struggling to find her form since being banned from the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh and some British press reports speculated she might be left out of the August 26 to 31 European event in Stuttgart, West Germany.

In the 3,000 metres, Budd will have another chance to beat Romania's Marica Puica.

The Romanian has won all their six meetings to date, including the Olympic final in Los Angeles when Budd placed seventh after tangling on the track with Mary Decker Slaney.

Sprinter Alan Wells, the former Olympic champion, is rewarded for a remarkable return to form at age 34 by being named in both the 100 and 200 metres.

Wells, out of top-level international athletics for four years through injury and inconsistency, made his comeback

last week and beat Canadian Ben Johnson, the fastest 100-metre runner in the world this year, at a meet in Gateshead, England.

Steve Cram and Sebastian Coe, Britain's two middle rivals who have avoided each other since the Olympic Games, should at last meet again. Both were named in the 800 and 1,500 metre races.

A double showdown between Coe, 800-metre world record holder, and Cram, who holds the world record for the mile and 2,000 metres, was due to have been one of the highlights of the Commonwealth Games.

But Coe withdrew from both races, suffering from a virus.

Since then, Coe has been training in Switzerland and needs to prove his fitness at the Weltklasse meet in Zurich on Wednesday to be certain of securing his place.

Because of the strength in depth of British middle distance running, Peter Elliott was omitted despite gaining a Commonwealth Games bronze medal and beating America's Johnny Gray — the second fastest miler in the world this year — in London on Friday.

Correcting the record books

By Mark Evje

Associated Press

CULVER CITY, California — Seeing his proper name and nationality placed on a city plaque honouring Olympic marathon winners means more to Kee Chung Sohn than winning the race.

The South Korean, now 74 years old, won the 1936 Olympic marathon in Berlin.

But Japan occupied Korea then, and forced Sohn to compete under the Japanese name of Kinei Son and the conquering country's flag. And that's how the race results went into the record books.

On Saturday, the 50th anniversary of the 41-kilometre race, this Los Angeles suburb became the first governmental body outside South Korea to officially recognise the true identity of the winner.

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Hungaroring fared well in debut

By Ian Keresey
Reuters

BUDAPEST — Brazilian Nelson Piquet left eastern Europe a hero Monday having split the world driver's championship wide open with his triumph in Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix, a race declared a success by the Formula One family.

From dawn through the soaring temperatures of Sunday morning, a procession of cars and coaches had filed along the motorway approaches to the Hungaroring circuit, a tight, twisting track outside Budapest on which battle was about to commence for the first time.

They came in their thousands from East Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland. They came in their tens of thousands from Hungary, proud hosts of the first world championship race in an Eastern Bloc country.

Many had seen Grand Prix racing on television but few had witnessed the glamour, noise and drama at first hand. And they liked what they saw — a duel for supremacy between the Williams of Piquet and the Lotus of his equally-gifted compatriot Ayrton Senna, another driver in contention for the crown.

Piquet prompted roars of approval from the 200,000 crowd with his spectacular driving, while Senna was applauded for the

precision and concentration which took him to second place. The rest were nowhere.

The East European fans had saved long and hard to raise the money for an admission ticket, particularly non-Hungarians who had to overcome stringent currency restrictions.

But they went away happy and hoping to return next year. Formula One have a five-year contract at the Hungaroring.

Hungarian organisers will now conduct a post-mortem on the race and so will the International Motor Sport Federation, the sport's governing body.

Drivers and teams had only a few minor complaints. Some wanted to straighten some of the corners because overtaking places were few.

"It's like Monaco without the houses," said British driver Martin Brundle, an observation on the track's slowness borne out by the fact that the race was stopped one lap short of its scheduled 77-lap course. The rules state that Grands Prix run for a maximum of two hours.

Trackside marshals, well-trained but naturally inexperienced, appeared slow to react when cars stopped in hazardous positions on a couple of occasions. But that occurs on circuits elsewhere.

The cavalcade of transporters and back-up vehicles which ferry

the cars and equipment around Europe each season began to roll across the border into Austria Monday.

They will be on the way to set up camp at Zeltweg, venue for the Austrian round of the championship next weekend.

Piquet goes there full of confidence, knowing his Williams possesses the power and the chassis to perform superbly on the super-fast Osterreichring.

He has now won the last two races and closed the gap on championship leader Nigel Mansell of Britain, his Williams teammate, to eight points.

Mansell was handicapped by a handling problem again Sunday but still managed third place despite being lapped by Piquet and Senna. "I shall have to start winning races again," he said.

Senna returned to second place overall on 48 points — seven behind Mansell, while titleholder Alain Prost of France dropped to fourth on 44 after his McLaren retired with technical trouble.

Five races remain this season and the signs are that the title will not be decided until Australia hosts the final round at Adelaide in October.

"It will be a fight to the end," said twice world champion Piquet, after taking the Williams team to their seventh win of the 16-race series. He now has three victories to Mansell's four.

Becker's luck runs out against Lendl

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vt. (R) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, the number one player in the world, consolidated that position Sunday beating third-ranking Boris Becker of

West Germany, 6-4, 7-6 (7-0) in a two hour final at the \$315,000 Stratton Mountain Men's Grand Prix tennis tournament.

The match was a predominantly groundstroke battle with many points being won on aces or first serves. Lendl took the lead first, breaking Becker for 2-1 but Becker evened the scores at three-all.

Lendl, the top-seed, took the lead again 5-4 when Becker, seeded second, failed to scoop a low backhand over the net. The Czech then served out the set with a service winner.

The excitement picked up in the second set, with Becker forsaking his power tactics for some finesse shots.

An attempted backhand drop volley at break point, however, failed to clear the net, costing Becker the lead and Lendl forged ahead 3-1.

Becker staved off two break points in the next game, then needed eight break points before seizing the break back in the longest game of the match to even scores at three-all.

That sixth game featured some spectacular stroke play from the baseline by both players, including the famous Becker roll-diver to set up the fifth break point.

Games then stayed even until the tiebreak, when Lendl reeled off seven straight points for the match.

At 5-0 in the tiebreak, a Becker crosscourt backhand was called wide giving Lendl six match points.

As the players switched sides, they exchanged some discussion, both having doubted the call.

"Boris said, 'Curran had two match points and McEnroe had four, do you think I can come back from six?'" reported Lendl. "I told him he better change ends quick or he'd get a penalty point," said Lendl.

The hound-like German could not escape Sunday, and yielded the next point to give Lendl the title on a backhand crosscourt that flew wide.

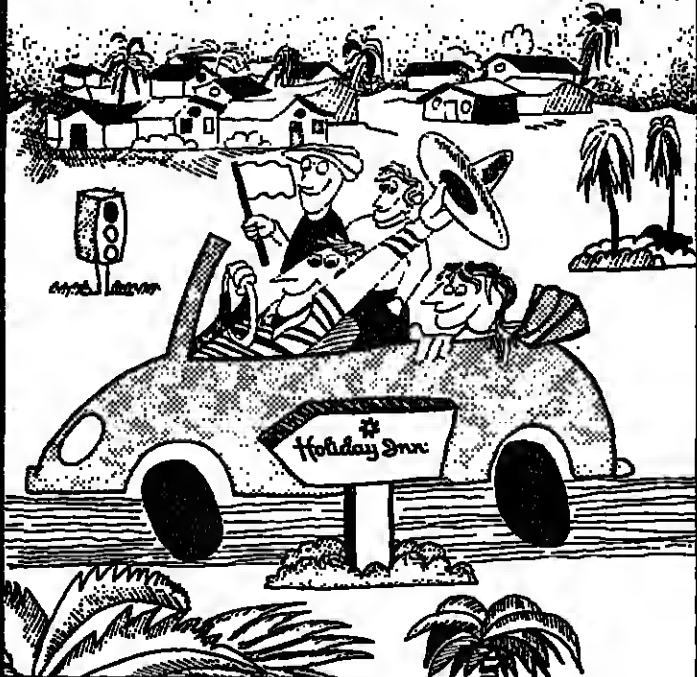
"I'm very happy I won but I must protect against peaking too early," said Lendl, who has his eye on the defence of his U.S. Open title two weeks from now in New York.

Comparing his loss to Becker in the recent Wimbledon final, Lendl said: "On this surface it's another game. Here I can serve well and try to move him around. At Wimbledon, I have to do what I don't do well, which is serve and volley."

Lendl and Becker have now met seven times with Lendl ahead 5-2.

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Tel: 675573

TUFF TURF

Performances 3:15, 5:00, 8:45, 10:45

Cine Theatre Philadelphia

Tel: 634144, 634149

LIGHT BLAST

Performances 3:30, 6:30, 10:45

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

WELCOME, ENTRANCE FORBIDDEN

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4765/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3843/48	Canadian dollars
	2.0565/75	West German marks
	2.3170/80	Dutch guilders
	1.6540/50	Swiss francs
	42.55/60	Belgian francs
	6.6750/6800	French francs
	1413/1414	Italian lire
	153.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.9150/3200	Swedish crowns
	7.3375/3425	Norwegian crowns
	7.7000/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	387.00/389.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed firmer. Light bargain hunting and buying for the new extended account wiped out nervous early declines that followed last week's steep falls, dealers said.

Wall Street's firmer opening and speculation of a U.S. discount rate cut and its hoped-for knock-on effects on U.K. base rates further cheered investors later in the afternoon.

The substantial number of issues quoted ex-dividend Monday morning helped push the share indices lower with the FTSE 100 briefly moving below the 1,520 resistance level to 1,519.8. It later rallied to stand 11.3 higher at 1,530.0 at 1430 GMT.

The sharp jump in the gold bullion price and the attendant rise in other metals helped a number of shares close higher. Consolidated finished 15p up at 469 after 474 while Johnson Matthey was 21p higher at 211 after the rise in platinum, dealers said.

Gold at one point on Monday was trading around \$25 above last Friday's close of around \$370 an ounce, lifting some gold shares as much as three or four dollars.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day will find you with extra energy and the ability to put your ideas across in a well planned fashion with whomever you contact.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle important business matters and be successful with them. Try to please your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you pay a compliment to an associate you come to a finer understanding. Get into new interests.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get today's activities nicely organized. Gain the assistance of your associates and all should go well.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get into whatever will give you greater peace of mind and later be of assistance to a close tie.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get an early start on helping those who dwell with you since they have many problems to solve.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get your desk work cleared up early. Seek the right answers to any problems you may have.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get into important monetary affairs in the morning. Tonight some property affair needs attention.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are full of vitality and can go after whatever you desire. Understanding comes in a personal matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Go after the data you want and you can easily get it. Situations may arise that leave little time for your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get in touch with a dynamic friend who will support you in your goals. Arrive on time for any appointments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get an early start on business and civic affairs and get much done despite possible delays.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Start on new goals with enthusiasm and self assurance and get fine results. Take it easy later.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very enthused at whatever will be of interest to him, or her, be it of a practical or imaginative nature. Upon reaching maturity you progeny will get into work that will require much thought and preparation and become very successful.

Belgium set for low economic growth as austerity strategy bites

BRUSSELS (R) — The Belgian economy is set for lower growth than many of its European neighbours over the next 18 months as the government implements spending cuts in a frontal assault on the country's massive debt, economists say.

The controversial spending cuts finalised last week are the main factor weighing on a growth rate set to fall well below the European Community (EC) average this year and next, they said. But the economy should be better placed to expand faster from 1988.

The package produced by Prime Minister Wilfried Martens' centre-right coalition government represents the most determined attack to date on Belgian debt, which has been hanging like a sword of Damocles over the economy throughout the 1980s.

Political commentators say the debt is the price Belgium has had to pay for being one of Europe's most lavish welfare states, with one of the biggest government roles in the economy.

The new package seeks to chop 195 billion francs (\$4.4 billion) off the budget deficit by the end of next year and will hit education, health spending and social security hardest. Last year the economy grew by about 1.7 per cent.

Major banks and the government's planning bureau now put the rate of growth for this year at 1.2 to 2.2 per cent against a Community average of 2.7 per cent. For 1987, the forecast is between 1.4 and 2.0 per cent, against 2.8 per cent for the EC.

"With the plan, we will have broken this spiral of debt that has weighed heavily on the economy and the markets," said one

economist at a major bank, who asked not to be named.

Mr. Martens, leading his sixth government since 1979, has imposed a series of austerity programmes since 1981 but political commentators say lack of cohesion and resolve in his coalitions up till now have effectively thwarted efforts to brake the upward debt spiral.

Belgium's total debt stands at over 5,000 billion francs (\$113 billion) and its budget deficit is well above the average for industrialised countries.

Commentators say much of the credit for the latest tough approach is due to hardline Budget Minister Guy Verhofstadt, brought into the government after last October's elections, who has resolutely fought off attempts to tone down the savings package by other ministers in the coalition.

But public sector, industrial and teaching unions have already staged crippling protests against the planned savings and are threatening to renew their actions after the summer.

"The Belgian economy is in a difficult period of transition as it tries to improve key indicators" such as the public sector deficit and current account balance of payments, Ms. Magda Van Buel, an economist in Kredietbank's study department, said.

The main goal of the strategy hammered out over weeks by the four-party coalition is to reduce the government budget deficit to eight per cent of gross national product (GNP) by the end of next year, from more than 11 per cent in 1985.

The government wants to

prevent interest payments on the deficit snowballing, and would like interest rates to fall, helping the economy to pick up from a sounder base long-term.

The International Monetary Fund has called the package unprecedented among industrialised countries in recent years.

After Mr. Martens announced the package following weeks of tough bargaining, the stock market, anticipating lower interest rates, reacted with strong gains. Analysts said they expect the market to continue rising for most of this year, though they fear that labour unrest threatened by unions next month in protest against the strategy could mean a temporary setback.

Economists agree the government's action on public sector finances is essential to secure steady growth, even at the expense of a temporary slowdown and say growth should gain momentum again after 1987. "The fundamentals for improvement in growth will be better after 1987 than they have been for the last four or five years," Ms. Van Buel said.

She and others said improvement would be due to deflationary influences being relaxed as the benefits of the strategy showed through, and to Belgium's competitive position improving on the back of low inflation and modest pay rises.

The government's planning bureau is also optimistic about the outlook from 1988 onwards, and recently forecast that annual GNP growth would average more than three per cent between 1988 and 1990.

U.S.-Japan microchip agreement may lead to new Asian challenges

BOSTON (R) — The United States has won some relief from aggressive competition by Japan's semiconductor industry, but sceptical industry analysts say the accord does not protect U.S. manufacturers from the new challenge of other Asian nations, particularly South Korea.

The analysts doubt whether the pact on the importing and exporting of one of the world's most important high-technology products, reached last month will significantly help domestic manufacturers and say South Korean firms will gain easier market entry against U.S. and Japanese firms alike.

"We've just given Korea a free ride," said Mr. Dick Skinner, president of Integrated Circuit Engineering, which specialises in market research in the semiconductor industry.

Semiconductors are tiny slices of silicon that form the brains and memories of almost all electronic devices from digital watches to computers to weapons systems, and their manufacture is an expanding world market now worth \$25 billion a year.

South Korea's four largest industrial conglomerates —

Hyundai, Daewoo, Lucky-Goldstar and Samsung — are committed to becoming major suppliers to this market and in the past two years have invested more than \$1 billion in building production facilities.

The South Korean firms have only about 1.5 per cent of the market to date, but the consulting firm product assessment estimates they could capture as much as 7.7 per cent by 1989.

The five-year trade agreement, reached minutes before the United States was due to impose retaliatory trade restrictions against Japanese-made chips, calls for the Japanese to avoid predatory pricing in the U.S. and other markets in which the two countries compete.

But the higher prices for chips this guarantees will make market entry even easier for the South Koreans, Mr. Skinner said. "They were late getting into the market and they are not yet cost competitive," he said.

"Competing at a \$2 (per chip) price level would have been pretty painful for them, but \$4 a chip isn't bad. I think they will make life very difficult for the Japanese."

The South Koreans have already progressed from making transistors to the most sophisticated types of chips in about five years, a process that took Japanese manufacturers 15 to 20 years. They also have a financial advantage over the Japanese in that the Korean won, unlike the yen, moves in concert with the American dollar.

Dataquest consultant, Mr. Sheridan Tatum, said the South Koreans also had an important economic incentive to expand into world markets. "The Korean economy is only one-tenth the size of the Japanese. They must export if they are to grow. They cannot count on domestic consumption."

The Japanese should be well aware of the potential success of South Korea's aim to be a high-volume, low-cost supplier, since it is the same strategy they used to conquer the semiconductor industry once dominated by American firms.

Although U.S. companies pioneered some of the most widely sold chips, they quickly lost ground to Japanese industrial giants including NEC, Hitachi, Toshiba, Fujitsu and Matsushita.

Kuwait urges OPEC states to respect production pact

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, a major contributor to temporary OPEC production cuts agreed last week, has urged all members of the 13-nation group to honour their pledges to help bolster world oil prices.

"The council of ministers affirms once again Kuwait's continuous support for OPEC cohesion ... despite the big sacrifices this entails for Kuwait as a result of lowering its output to minimal levels," cabinet secretary-general Sheikh Abdul Aziz Mohammed Al Othaybi said in a statement.

The statement, carried by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Sunday night, was issued after a weekly cabinet meeting.

Kuwait agreed at an Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meeting in Geneva last week to reduce its output to 900,000 barrels per day (b/d) from about 1.6 million as part of an accord to effectively cut total group production to some 16.8 million b/d.

Cuts agreed by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia account for almost two-thirds of the 3.5 million b/d expected to be removed from the market under the temporary accord over two months from Sept. 1.

Meanwhile, oil industry sources in Bahrain said Sunday that Saudi Arabia's crude oil output remained high at around six million b/d during the first 10 days of August, but amid signs that the level could fall back soon.

Saudi oil authorities have started to tell customers that contracts to buy crude oil cannot be increased under a scheme offering lower prices for bigger orders, they said.

An output reduction by Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, is seen by the industry as vital to the success of OPEC's new output agreement to boost low world prices.

Industry sources said that during the first 10 days of August the kingdom exported 3.9 million b/d alone through its two major Gulf terminals of Ras Tanunrah and Ju'aymah.

This outstripped levels of 3.6 million b/d through the two terminals in the final days of July and the first days of August. Last month's average was just under 3.8 million b/d.

In addition to Saudi Oil exports through the two terminals, industry sources estimate its major Red Sea port of Yanbu channelled through 800,000 b/d in the first week of August.

With about 1.5 million b/d for Saudi Arabia routinely used for its refineries and domestic consumption, total output would be running at about six million b/d, or the same high level as in the second half of July, they said.

The market expects, however, that Saudi Arabia will start to throttle back production during the second half of August as September approaches. Then, under terms of OPEC's Geneva accord, it must return to a 1984 quota of 4.353 million b/d.

Saudi Arabia's high output in

the Aug. 5 agreement "until there is appropriate stability on the market."

OPEC's aim was to secure a fair share of the market to be defined in agreement with oil producers outside the group, Mr. Taqi said. It would inevitably entail a new production ceiling, he said, without elaborating.

The Aug. 5 agreement was only a "tactical move to mop up the oil surplus in the market," he said.

Mr. Taqi rejected allegations that the agreement was forced by outside political pressures, saying "how could 13 independent states subjugate to the will of another foreign party?"

The minister said the majority of the members at Geneva considered the "suitable" price per barrel of crude oil at present should be \$17 to \$19, which "could then be raised gradually in future."

This was opposed to the few who had advocated "immediate harsh measures" to reverse the sliding prices to the abandoned price of \$28 per barrel of benchmark crude oil, he said.

Mr. Taqi said a benchmark price and a pricing system by OPEC would mean an end to the discounts under the so-called netback deals, where oil is sold by OPEC member states at prices related to those of the refined products. But he did not propose a benchmark price.

He said Iraq would propose the establishment of a technical committee to come out with a pricing formula that could be applied to petroleum products and other types of crudes, which have been traditionally exempted from the group's pricing system.

EC to open markets to West Bank, Gaza farm products

By Jerry Lewis
Jerusalem Post

LONDON — The European Community (EC) is planning to make it easier for residents of the occupied territories to export agricultural produce to the Common Market, Foreign Office Minister Timothy Renton told journalists last week.

Mr. Renton said that the British government in its capacity as president of the EC and the European Commission, was looking into how to help the territories. He was hopeful the Commission would soon provide some "positive" proposals.

EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson is said to be "keen" to introduce specific plans to give a wider market for produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Mr. Renton said.

Recalling his visit to Israel and the Gaza Strip last December, Mr. Renton said he had specifically pressed the issue of access to the EC for residents of the territories.

He added that he hoped Israel would be willing to coordinate any scheme to be introduced, though he conceded that the details could well require the cooperation of both Israel and Jordan.

Mr. Renton did not disclose whether British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe would represent the EC and meet with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

He said that Sir Howe would not focus on Middle East issues until after discussions with his EC colleagues, due to be held in early September.

The British government had not even decided what would be the appropriate level of contact with the organisation, but he made it clear that it does not accept the PLO as the Palestinians' sole representative.

Mr. Renton criticised Israel's human rights record, especially regarding the reunification of families. Drawing a parallel with the Soviet treatment of its Jews, Mr. Renton said, "It is not only the Kremlin which drags its feet over family reunification."

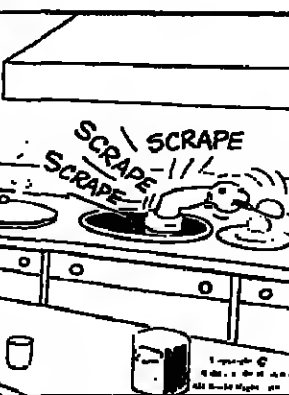
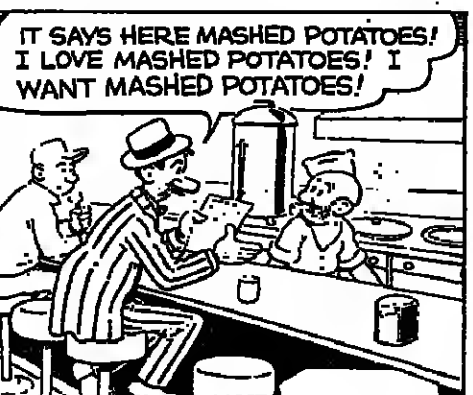
Claiming that there were at least 10,000 outstanding applications for Palestinian family reunification, he said Israel should "do more" in this area.

Mr. Renton added there was considerable public concern in Britain about the demolition of houses, the closure of universities, administrative detentions and travel restrictions.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Answers: HER, BLEN, QULLAS, DIRTOR

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers: HER, BLEN, QULLAS, DIRTOR

Answers: HER, BLEN, QULLAS, DIRTOR

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Answers: HER, BLEN, QULLAS, DIRTOR

S. African court declares key emergency regulation invalid

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — The Natal supreme court ruled Monday that a key clause in South Africa's emergency regulations that has enabled the government to detain thousands of people is invalid.

The judgment, issued in Durban, was immediately challenged by lawyers for the state, who filed an appeal.

The court ordered the release of a detainee, Lechesa Tsenoli, whose lawyers argued that clauses empowering security forces to detain people were invalid.

Tsenoli, a community organizer in the township of Lamontville, near Durban, was arrested on June 12, the day President P.W. Botha declared a national state of emergency, the court was told.

If the court's ruling is upheld it could lead to the release of all those detained under the emergency in Natal province and possibly elsewhere in the country, lawyers said.

However, they cautioned that the government could quickly issue new regulations.

Tsenoli's case was heard on July 31 by three supreme court judges headed by Justice David Friedman. The application was brought against President Botha, Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange and Justice Minister Kobi Coetsee.

The case focused on clause three of the emergency regulations, empowering the government to detain people and hold them indefinitely.

The court said the first part of clause three was invalid because the government was obliged to show that the detention of all those rounded up would help to end to the state of emergency.

Leading civil rights lawyer Geoff Budlender hailed the ruling as far-reaching and said its implications were that all detainees had to be released.

Lawyers for the state said in court that Tsenoli, local publicity secretary for the United Democratic Front (UDF) anti-apartheid organisation, had contributed to political unrest by allowing his home to be used for weapons training.

The court ordered the law and order and justice ministers to release Tsenoli and pay the costs of the case.

State attorneys argued that Tsenoli should be held until the government's appeal is heard.

South Africa has six supreme court divisions and appeals from them are heard by the Bloemfontein Appeals Court, the country's highest legal body.

Since the state of emergency was imposed, several supreme court rulings have trimmed its powers. President Botha reacted by issuing new regulations replacing most of the measures struck out by the courts.

Clause three, under which security forces have detained thousands of people, is viewed as the most important section in the regulations and its removal would severely weaken Mr. Botha's emergency powers, lawyers said.

The government says the emergency has almost succeeded in quelling political violence.

The Bureau For Information reported three more deaths in violence among blacks but said the weekend had been the quietest for two years with only a few incidents of unrest.

The bodies of the three men were found near Hankey in the eastern Cape, it said, taking the death toll since the emergency to 223.

Max Coleman, a leader of a monitoring group called the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, said his group's latest estimate was that about 8,000 people were in detention.

He said he saw no reason why the Natal court would reverse itself and grant the government's appeal. But he said the government might try to "neutralise" the ruling through some type of administrative action, as Mr. Botha did recently in amending the emergency regulations after several courts declared sections invalid.

In another court case, the publishers of South Africa's major English-language newspapers went to court Monday to challenge the restrictions placed on the press under the two-month-old state of

emergency. The challenge, also filed in Natal province supreme court, named as respondents Mr. Botha, Mr. Le Grange and Mr. Coetsee.

The court action contends that Mr. Botha, in his emergency proclamation, exceeded his authority in prohibiting the publication of photographs of unrest and barring the reporting of a wide range of "subversive statements."

The action also challenges a section authorising the banning or seizure of newspapers and other publications, saying it gives "subjective discretion" to those making the seizure.

The challenge was filed by the Argus Printing and Publishing Co., South African Associated Newspapers, Natal Newspapers and the Natal Witness.

Mugabe warns of hardship

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, the first leader to commit his country to Commonwealth sanctions against South Africa, called Monday for immediate steps against what he termed Pretoria's military and economic aggression.

In a speech marking Heroes' Day national holiday, he said South African border controls imposed last week that have slowed the flow of Zimbabwean and Zambian goods and South African raids on Harare, Lusaka and Gaborone in May showed the threat Pretoria posed to its neighbours.

On Friday, Mr. Mugabe announced that by the end of the year Zimbabwe would implement fully a package of sanctions against South Africa agreed in London by six Commonwealth countries but not by Britain.

They include severing air links, withdrawing most consular services and banning imports of South African iron, coal and steel.

Speaking at Heroes' Acre Cemetery in western Harare, Mr. Mugabe said: "I assure you that in maintaining our sanctions stance we are not alone but have the support of most of the international community."

"The current acts of economic sabotage by the racist regime are more than an indication of the threat facing our young nation, especially when viewed against the background of unprovoked aggression directed against us and other states in recent months."

He continued: "We must proceed immediately to gear ourselves to effective measures to counter them. In doing so, our nation will be called upon to be prepared to endure hardship... let us each and every one make noble sacrifices."

Mahathir reshuffles cabinet

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad announced a new 23-member cabinet Monday with four new ministers and a minor reshuffle of portfolios.

He changed top men at the Foreign Ministry and Primary Industries Ministry and left the Ministry of Justice post vacant, saying it would be filled later.

He retained Abdul Ghafar Baba as deputy prime minister and left unchanged the key portfolios of finance, defence, education and trade and industry.

Mr. Mahathir, whose 13-party multiracial National Front Coalition won 148 of 177 parliamentary seats in last week's general election, said he would remain the home minister.

He told a news conference that the party mix of the new cabinet would remain unchanged with his own United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), the dominant national front partner holding 14 ministerial posts.

The second largest party in the National Front, the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), would have four posts and six smaller component parties one each, he said.

As expected, the president of the MCA, Tan Koon Swan, who faces fraud and other charges Tuesday in Singapore related to the collapse of the conglomerate Pan-Electric Industries, was not appointed a minister.

Of the four new ministers appointed to two represent the UMNO, one Parti Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia and the other the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS).

The UMNO's new

representatives in the cabinet are Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Ajib Ahmad and Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The new foreign minister is Datuk Rais Yatim, the former information minister. He swapped places with Tengku Ahmad Rihauddeen.

Gerakan President Datuk Lim Keng Yaik replaced Datuk Paul Leong as primary industries minister and PBS representative Kasiah Gadam was appointed another minister in the prime minister's department.

Mr. Mahathir said his new cabinet would not make major domestic or foreign policy changes, but would work at solving some major economic problems like unemployment, sluggish investment and low primary commodity prices.

"There will be no major policy changes... we think we are on the right track. That is why we have been elected," he said.

"Some people think that because some members of the opposition have been elected we should follow what the opposition wants us to do... we will follow what our supporters want us to do," he said.

Mr. Mahathir said his new government would try to create employment and improve the level of foreign investments in the country.

He said his government would try to reduce Malaysia's dependence on rubber, tin and palm oil exports.

He said the low price such commodities are currently fetching was not Malaysia's fault.

Chun cites fears of N. Korean ties with Moscow

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan expressed deep concern Monday at North Korea's growing military links with Moscow, called for heightened vigilance at home, and urged northern leader Kim Il Sung to meet him for peace talks.

The next three years, Mr. Chun told a Seoul press conference, would be crucial for national security.

As South Korea staged the Olympic Games in 1988 and elected a new president the same year, he said, "the republic will reach a point where its own military strength alone will be nearly sufficient to deter North Korea's provocations." At present 30,000 U.S. troops are stationed here to bolster the country's defences.

"Anyone can see that this period is of great significance to our national security. And North Korea cannot fail to see that. Accordingly, it will be more keen than ever on mobilising all available means to scheme against us."

Mr. Chun said he was watching with particular concern the recent rapid expansion of North Korea's military links with Moscow.

He said intelligence reports indicated a possibility that the Kremlin might now be prepared to commit ground forces to back Pyongyang in any future conflict.

Mr. Chun called on the country to be more alert and vigilant during the coming two to three years than it had ever been.

"If we pass through this period without war, North Korea will have to modify its stance in the light of an enormous gap that will have developed by then between us and them in terms of overall national capabilities," the president said.

Meanwhile the United Nations Command said Monday that the North Korean claim of another shooting incident within the demilitarised zone (DMZ) that divides the Korean peninsula was a complete fabrication.

North Korea's Communist government charged that South Korean soldiers fired at a North Korean guard post Saturday night in the third such incident in the DMZ in a week.

The U.N. Command had said earlier that on Tuesday, North Korean troops fired on U.N. posts in the zone and the fire was returned. No casualties were reported.

North Korea said its troops came under fire again Friday night, but the U.N. Command said there had been no shooting.

India mourns murder of retired army chief

PUNE, India (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi led India Monday in mourning for the murdered army chief who planned the 1984 military assault against Sikh terrorists holed up at the Golden Temple of Amritsar.

The killing of retired General Arun Vaidya prompted police to declare a red national alert, while local police conceded that a security lapse allowed gunmen on motorcycles to shoot Gen. Vaidya dead and wound his wife.

Gen. Vaidya's funeral with full military honours was held in Pune (Poona), a major military town 150 kilometres east of Bombay, Monday afternoon.

In a statement, Mr. Gandhi called the murder "a heinous crime" and said Gen. Vaidya "was a gallant and distinguished soldier who served India with devotion."

Mr. Gandhi ended a trip to Britain, Mexico and Czechoslovakia with an unscheduled stop in Moscow on Monday when his Air India plane developed engine trouble.

He flew on to New Delhi in a borrowed Soviet airliner and went to his official residence.

Gen. Vaidya, who retired six months ago, was shot dead Sunday when the gunmen pulled alongside his car and opened fire with automatic weapons.

The 60-year-old general, one of India's most decorated soldiers, had received letters threatening

his life for his role in the Golden Temple assault in which more than 1,000 people were killed.

The Times of India newspaper said security was tightened around Gen. Vaidya after a letter from "pro-Khalistan" elements, Khalistan, the "land of the pure," is the separate homeland sought by Sikh extremists in the northern state of Punjab.

Pune Police Commissioner B.J. Misar told a press conference Sunday that a bodyguard accompanying Gen. Vaidya did not fire a shot because his feet got caught in the car's rear seat.

The opposition Lok Dal Party described the killing as "the biggest failure of the intelligence agencies."

Shops, schools and offices closed in Pune Monday in protest at Gen. Vaidya's murder, while both Houses of the Indian parliament in New Delhi adjourned in memory of the general.

Security was tightened at ports and railway stations and extra guards were assigned to VIPs on a Sikh extremist hit list.

Punjab Police Chief Julio Ribeiro said a series of raids over the past two days netted nearly 30 top extremists including the head of the Khalistan Commando Force, most militant of the groups fighting for a separate nation in Sikh-majority Punjab.

Australian police shocked at child abuse discovery

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Firefighters who arrived at a burning house in Sydney suburb found three young children living in conditions that police described Monday as "not fit even for pigs."

"It's the worst case of child abuse we've ever seen," said a police spokesman who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In court Monday, police detective Lola Scott sobbed as she gave testimony on how the parents, Robyn Francis Cappetti, 41, and her 39-year-old husband Donald, neglected Brett, 7; Darren, 4; and David, 2.

The boys were found Saturday when firefighters responded to a blaze at the suburban Sydney home.

Police were called, and they charged the Cappettis on four counts of causing body harm and four counts of negligence. The couple were denied bail.

Mrs. Cappetti buried her face in her hands as police described in Penrith local court how Darren slept in the kitchen on a dirty piece of foam "not fit even for pigs."

Ms. Scott, the police detective, said the boy was tied up to prevent him getting food from the refrigerator.

The officer said the parents refused to change Darren's diaper because it was infested with cockroaches.

Police said all three boys were badly malnourished and bore scars from scalding and beatings.

Prosecutor Sgt. John King told the court the parents abused the children because they had wanted them to be girls. Mrs. Cappetti in particular was unable to cope with having boys, he said.

Initial police reports said the children were suffering from gangrene and that the toes of one of them would have to be amputated. But a spokesman for the Nepean Hospital, where the children are being cared for, said that prospect seemed unlikely.

Their condition Monday was listed as satisfactory but they were to remain under medical observation for the next several days before being released into state custody.

Magistrate John Hiatt remanded the couple in custody and adjourned the case for hearing at Penrith on Sept. 9.

When found, the boys were so encrusted in filth that they could not move their fingers or toes, police said.

U.S. politicians seek overseas votes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Politicians are taking a new interest in wooing 6 million potential U.S. voters expected to be out of the country on election day in November.

That is a larger number of votes than was cast by any state in 1984, except California and New York.

At a Senate hearing last Thursday, Henry Valentino, in charge of the Federal Voting Assistance Programme, testified that only 28 per cent — about 700,000 — voters cast ballots out of 2.5 million U.S. citizens outside the country who were not in the military or otherwise connected with the U.S. government.

Including military personnel, U.S. government workers and their dependents, 8 million potential American voters are overseas, he said.

The largest groups of Americans abroad are in Mexico and Canada.

As long as they are U.S. citizens over 18 years old, they can vote like any stay-at-home. But they have to use an absentee ballot, which can be more trouble than many want to take.

In 1984, the Republican National Committee bought addresses of 1.7 million service people from the Pentagon. Since then the Republicans have been back twice for more, according to Bill Caldwell, a Defence Department spokesman. There have been 18 other customers including 14 members of Congress, Caldwell added.

This year the Republicans made a joint inquiry with the Democrats. Caldwell said the Democrats did not ask for a list. "They decided they didn't want to spend the money," explained

Thomas A. Fina, executive director of Democrats abroad. He said a list would have been several thousand dollars.

Ali Mills, executive director of Republicans abroad, claims that his organisation mobilised 1 million votes in 1984 and now has local committees working in 63 countries.

By mid-September, he said, his country committees hope to have as many as 1 million names of potential civilian voters as well.

Fina was reluctant to give figures on the Democrats' efforts, saying only that his group is active in the major Western European and Asian countries.

"Last year the Republicans abroad raised \$100,000 in just one event," he added. "This year our budget is \$3,500 and I don't think we've quite collected that much yet."

Popular Chinese store sells entrance tickets

PEKING (R) — A store in the Chinese city of Tianjin proved so popular that the crush of shoppers broke the stairs despite needing to buy tickets to get in, an official paper said Sunday. The China daily business weekly said the Tianjin international market was enormously popular because it sold scarce high-quality domestic and imported goods, including items from more than 200 foreign firms. It quoted Li Xuejin, the store's vice-manager, as saying it introduced a ticketing system to try to control the expected large number of shoppers. But the crowds were so big from opening day on May 22 that customers were barely able to move and the stairs had been broken by the third day. Li said the ticket system would be abolished when public interest began to wane.

Thieves get away with moon dust

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — Thieves who stole a U.S. space agency van carried off moon dust samples, a small computer and a laser-activated video recorder and destroyed a space suit when they torched the vehicle, police said. There was no way to put a cash value on the moon dust, said police spokesman Ness Smith. "They're not replaceable," he said. A 1971 National Aeronautics and Space Administration space suit, which cost \$125,000 when it was new, was destroyed when the van was burned. The 1982 Ford van was stolen near the residence of Louis Marshall, who conducts educational programmes for NASA. It was found burned on the outskirts of town, police said Friday. Marshall said the samples of lunar dust were in a plastic disk six inches (9 cm) wide by one inch (2.5 cm) thick.

Memories fade a year after Carbide toxic chemical leak

INSTITUTE, West Virginia (AP) — "Emergency assembly area" signs posted on West Virginia State College buildings are beginning to fade, and with them the memories of a toxic gas leak that hospitalised 135 people a year ago.

Since the accident, the chemical giant Union Carbide has used public relations and a streak of good luck to turn anger into business as usual.

"It's human nature," said Paul Nuchims, an art professor at the college, which was designated an evacuation area after the leak.

The longer period of time between problems, the less people think about something they fear.

On Aug. 11, 1985, after being allowed to boil unboiled for 11 days, a mixture of aldicarb nixime and methylene chloride spewed from a storage tank.

A pale white cloud of chemicals descended on this community of 3,000 people.

Most of the 135 victims were discharged from hospitals after treatment for minor respiratory ailments, burning eyes and nausea. None has reported any lingering illnesses.

Carbide responded to the incident by spending \$2.7 million to improve safety systems in the aldicarb unit and putting a full-time spokeswoman in the plant. It also adopted a plan to reduce emissions by 30 per cent at

all plants. State and federal inspectors focused their attention on Institute in December 1984, when methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from Carbide's Bhopal, India, plant and killed more than 2,000 people.

MIC also is made at Institute, and the unit that leaked last August uses MIC in the production of aldicarb, the base of the insecticide Temik.

Union Carbide shut its MIC operation in Institute immediately after the Bhopal leak, and opened it five months later after receiving approval from federal regulators.

After the leak, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration conducted an unprecedented inspection of the plant and fined Carbide a record \$137 million for safety violations. (Union Carbide is appealing the citations.)

Cathy Gallagher moved to the Institute plant full-time after the aldicarb leak, said her job was to allay fears by educating residents about plant processes.

"If people aren't concerned about the plant, it shows that faith is restored in the workers here," Gallagher said. "Because of what happened last August, it's good that their faith has been restored."

Nuchims said Carbide's months of misfortune have been overshadowed by a year of good luck.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WHERE'S THE JACK?

North-South vulnerable West deals			
NORTH			
♠	Q 10 9 7		
♥	A 8 7 6 3		
♦	A 10 5		
WEST			
♠	Q J 9		
♥	A 7 6 3		
♦	A Q 7 4		
EAST			
♠	K 10 8 7 5 3		
♥	7 3		
♦	5		
♣	A Q 7 4		
SOUTH			
♠	A 6 4		
♥	K 8		
♦	K Q 10 9 4 2		
♣	K 8		
The bidding:			
West	North	East	South
1	Pass	Pass	2
Pass	3	Pass	3 NT
Pass	5	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠			

The latest bridge program for IBM computers to reach its (Tournament Bridge, by Paul A. Schwarz, Random House Software, \$69.95), has some impressive features. It is programmed to simulate random play, in that the computer's defensive play adjusts to the line you adopt as declarer. For instance, consider this hand, where the directed contract is five diamonds. (We would be reluctant to disturb three no trump with the North hand, since we would fear enemy heart ruffs.) The problem is

to avoid losing three tricks in hearts and clubs combined. The opening lead marks East with the king of spades, so West almost surely has the ace of hearts and the ace-queen of clubs for his opening bid.

If you elect to play West for the jack of hearts and take a finesse, East will win and shift to a club to defeat you; if you play East for the jack, West will turn up with that card and you will lose two heart tricks and the ace of clubs.

The winning line is to ruff unit two spades and draw trumps, ending in the closed hand. Now lead a low heart. West must duck and the queen wins. Return a heart to the king and West is not played. No matter what he returns, he must give you your 11th trick. Try it.

The drawbacks of the program are: first of all, its price—for your \$70 you get only 84 hands. Then nowhere does it show you the complete deals, you have to work them out for yourself. And lastly, while it purports to let you play in a tournament, the fact that you do not get to bid and all contracts are directed means that, although you get a "tournament result," in each hand you can achieve only one of two scores: either you make the given contract or you go down. As against that, the hands are challenging—perhaps even a trifle too much so.

Dormitories, dining rooms, and cocaine processing labs were pulverised, sending thick columns of smoke into the air, Andina said.

Peru, vowing to wage its battle against drugs alone, hit the bases at the outset of an operation against 12 drug complexes in the jungle, Interior Minister Abel Salinas said.

He said it was the first time that any government in the world had deployed fighter aircraft in an anti-narcotics drive and added that Peru planned to use the jets against other bases.

Helicopter gunships attacked a third base called "New Jerusalem" and police on board were met by a hail of machine-gun fire from traffickers, he said.

There was no official word on casualties.

"We want to show that Peru is using its own means to enter the country to fight the scourge," Mr. Salinas said.

Neighbouring Bolivia, the world's second biggest producer of coca leaf, the illicit raw material used to make cocaine, launched a major anti-trafficking drive on July 16 with the backing of 170 U.S. troops and six Black Hawk helicopters.

The American soldiers were invited to the country by the government of Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

But the U.S. deployment caused an outcry over what many Bolivians saw as an infringement of their national sovereignty.

Peru and Bolivia together grow

about 90 per cent of the world's coca leaf crop for cocaine, according to narcotics experts. The State Department estimates 4.4 tons of cocaine were produced last year in Peru.

Most of the harvest is converted into coca paste and is flown to Colombia for the final stage of the processing chain in which the paste is refined into market-ready cocaine. But in recent years traffickers in Peru and Bolivia have been manufacturing the product.

Mr. Salinas vowed to completely destroy the 12 jungle bases, four of which had sophisticated cocaine refining equipment and paved air strips. He said the bases had been raided in an anti-narcotics drive last September but armed traffickers had returned to rebuild them.

The year-old government of President Alan Garcia has won praise from the United States for a vigorous campaign against traffickers and illegal producers of coca leaf.

Since Mr. Garcia took office, paramilitary police have destroyed 141 air strips used for

trafficking and dismantled 26 cocaine laboratories, according to Interior Ministry figures.

Police sweeps in the northern jungle have also seized 14 planes and 25 motorbikes used to transport the material.

The raids have yielded 46 tons of coca paste — enough to produce 18 tons of cocaine.

Progress in the fight against the cocaine trade is the warmest spot in U.S.-Peruvian relations which are strained by disagreements over policies on air rights, foreign debt and Central America, diplomats said.

Under Mr. Garcia, the United States has sponsored a \$30-million programme to eradicate the cocaine trade in Peru.